



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 109th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 151

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2005

No. 5

House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

As we begin this regular session of the 109th Congress, the words of Deuteronomy demand our attention and spring into action the solemn oath sworn by Members of this Chamber to uphold the Constitution and serve God's people.

"Today you are making an agreement with the Lord: He is to be your God and you are to walk in His ways and observe His statutes, commandments and decrees, and to hearken to His voice.

"And today the Lord is making this agreement with you. You are to be a people especially His own, as He promised you; and provided you keep all His commandments, He will then raise you high in praise and renown and glory above all other nations He had made, and you will be a people sacred to the Lord your God."

Let the people say: Amen. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CUELLAR) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CUELLAR led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:
WASHINGTON, DC,
January 25, 2005.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on January 25, 2005 at 9:07 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. Res. 7.
Appointments:
Senate National Security Working Group;
Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAH, *Clerk of the House.*

HONORING THE LAKEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

(Mr. KLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of a talented group of young men and women from my hometown of Lakeville, Minnesota.

Over 300 members of the Lakeville High School Panther Band made all Minnesotans proud with their outstanding performance last week in the Presidential Inaugural Parade. The skill and enthusiasm demonstrated by these 10th- through 12th-graders reflected well upon their director, Nathan Earp, and the families, teachers and fellow students who support them.

As a neighbor and a fan of the Marching Panthers, I was proud to watch them go by, and I am proud to pay tribute to them today.

HONORING THE OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS OF JOSEPH A. SCOTT, JR.

(Mr. CUELLAR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding contributions of Joseph A. Scott, Jr., and to acknowledge a scholarship fund in his name recognizing his exceptional years of service to the people of San Antonio.

Joe paved the way for others and became the first African American in San Antonio to become a licensed insurance agent. He then went on to found World Technical Services, providing jobs for the disabled and those conquering substance abuse. He most recently served as a cofounder of the New Covenant Baptist Church.

Joe has also played an integral role in San Antonio politics, working closely with former President Lyndon B. Johnson, former mayor and HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros and the late Congressman Frank Tejeda.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have this opportunity to recognize the many accomplishments of Mr. Joseph A. Scott, Jr.

COMMENDING ERSKINE COLLEGE

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Erskine College, the oldest 4-year, church-related college in South Carolina, which was founded by the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church.

For over 106 years, Erskine's faculty and staff have created an environment of excellence, where students are taught to incorporate their first-class education and good moral values into

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

H143

their day-to-day lives as members of society.

Recently, the Erskine Seminary announced the opening of a new campus in partnership with the First Presbyterian Church in Columbia, which my family has attended for six generations. As well, Erskine Seminary trains our U.S. Army Medcom Chaplains at Fort Sam Houston.

Finally, I would like to commend President John Carson, working with Board of Trustees Chairman John Moore, for his strong leadership and vision throughout his 7 years at Erskine. Because of President Carson's efforts, the school has reported record increases in enrollment for both the college and the seminary. When he steps down from his post in June, he can leave with the confidence that Erskine is better because of his service.

In conclusion, may God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11.

CONGRATULATING THE IRAQI PEOPLE ON HOLDING ELECTIONS JANUARY 30

(Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the upcoming Iraqi national elections on Saturday, January 30, and to congratulate the millions of brave Iraqi citizens who plan on voting in their first free election.

After suffering for decades under Saddam Hussein's brutal regime, the Iraqi people finally have an opportunity to form a representative government that truly reflects the will of the Iraqi nation. Despite ongoing pockets of violence in a few Iraqi cities, it is clear that millions of Iraqis will finally be able to shape their own futures by expressing and exercising their right to vote.

Mr. Speaker, this will truly be a national election that Iraq and the rest of the Middle East can and should be proud of. More than 14.3 million Iraqi citizens have registered to vote. More than 190 political parties will be on the ballot, encompassing almost 19,000 Iraqi citizens standing for election. Finally and most importantly, nearly 80 percent of Iraqis say that they will vote, even in the face of threatened violence from the terrorist insurgency.

Mr. Speaker, these are fantastic statistics.

THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF SOCIAL SECURITY PRIVATIZATION ON WOMEN

(Ms. SOLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to represent the millions of American women who would be disproportion-

ately hurt by privatizing Social Security.

First of all, women on average earn less than men. Full-time working women still receive only 73 cents to every dollar earned by a man. This means that women count on Social Security's progressive benefits structure as their primary retirement income more than men.

Women make up about 60 percent of Social Security beneficiaries, and on average live 6 to 8 years longer, so their savings run out sooner.

In my district, there are more than 10,700 households headed by women who are the guardians of their families. The average income in my district is about \$41,000, and Social Security assures economic stability for women retirees. At the end of 2003, women's average monthly retirement benefit in my district was about \$798, and the men's average benefit was about \$1,039.

The gender disparities mean we must fight to protect women. Let us not call Social Security a crisis. Let us fix it so that everybody is treated equally and so that benefits are stabilized.

TROOP STRENGTH

(Mr. BLUNT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk for a minute about the importance of maintaining America's all-volunteer military in order to fight and win the global war on terror.

That military is very dependent on the integrated Armed Forces, our guardsmen and Reserves who are available to us at what I think should be times of crisis or need.

I would like to place before the House today six guidelines that I intend to use as we move forward toward looking at our decisions on military preparedness.

The first of those points is simply to maintain our commitment to a fully integrated force.

Number two, to challenge the administration to allocate resources in a manner that ensures that our soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines are well-equipped and well-funded.

Number three, achieve the right size of force.

Number four, establish the right mix of force.

Number five, retain the force by doing those things necessary for relieving the burden on soldiers and their families.

Number six, preserve the long-term dominance of America's fighting force.

Mr. Speaker, we have no greater responsibility than to provide for our national defense. The Founders of our government stated this very clearly in the Preamble to our Constitution. We must continue to maintain that constitutional commitment.

REBUILDING SOCIETY WITH TRUE RESPECT FOR WOMEN AND THE BEAUTIFUL GIFT OF LIFE

(Mr. FORTENBERRY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday tens of thousands of people came to Washington to peacefully stand for life.

I am particularly encouraged, Mr. Speaker, by the multitudes of young people who came and who, despite a culture of death that rages around them, have courageously challenged the judgment of the Supreme Court, showing us that we can be a country of life-giving love, even for those in the most difficult situations.

These young people are saying that abortion is a fundamental injustice against women and their unborn children; that abortion has caused a deep wound in the soul of the country, resulting in untold grief and violence.

These young people are saying that women deserve better, especially those who may feel coerced into abortion. They are the compassionate voices for so many of us in need of healing.

Mr. Speaker, these young people have given me hope that we can rebuild our society with true respect for women and the beautiful gift of life.

HONORING MONSIGNOR IGNATIUS McDERMOTT

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, during the period when we were away, the Nation lost one of my favorite people, Father Ignatius McDermott, better known as Father Mac.

Father Mac was a Catholic priest who, when Chicago had an area known as Skid Row, used to walk among the men who were basically alcoholics, out of work, and would minister to them at night, and became known as the Skid Row Priest.

Later on he founded Haymarket Center, which has become one of the most effective substance abuse treatment centers in the country today. Father Mac worked right up to the moment when he gave his last measure of life.

Mr. Speaker, I commend him for his work and for his efforts. There are thousands who are living rejuvenated lives because of the work of Father Mac.

We thank you, Father Mac.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered or on

which the vote is objected to under clause 8 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

CONGRATULATING PEOPLE OF UKRAINE FOR DEMOCRATIC, TRANSPARENT AND FAIR RUN-OFF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 16) congratulating the people of Ukraine for conducting a democratic, transparent, and fair runoff Presidential election on December 26, 2004, and congratulating Viktor Yushchenko on his election as President of Ukraine and his commitment to democracy and reform, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 16

Whereas the establishment of a democratic, transparent, and fair election process for the 2004 presidential election in Ukraine and of a genuinely democratic political system have been prerequisites for that country's full integration into the international community of democracies;

Whereas the Government of Ukraine has accepted numerous specific commitments governing the conduct of elections as a participating State of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE);

Whereas the election of Ukraine's next president was seen as an unambiguous test of the extent of the Ukrainian authorities' commitment to implement these standards and build a democratic society based on free elections and the rule of law;

Whereas a genuinely free and fair election requires government and public authorities to ensure that candidates and political parties enjoy equal treatment before the law and that government resources are not employed to the advantage of individual candidates or political parties;

Whereas a genuinely free and fair election requires the full transparency of laws and regulations governing elections, multiparty representation on election commissions, and unobstructed access by candidates, political parties, and domestic and international observers to all election procedures, including voting and vote-counting in all areas of the country;

Whereas efforts by national and local officials and others acting at the behest of such officials to impose obstacles to free assembly, free speech, and a free and fair political campaign took place throughout Ukraine during the entire 2004 presidential election campaign without condemnation or remedial action by the Government of Ukraine;

Whereas on October 31, 2004, Ukraine held the first round of its presidential election and on November 21, 2004, Ukraine held a runoff presidential election between the two leading candidates, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich and opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko;

Whereas a consensus of Ukrainian and international election observers determined that the runoff election did not meet a considerable number of international standards for democratic elections, and these observers specifically declared that state resources were abused in support of Viktor Yanukovich, and that illegal voting by absentee ballot, multiple voting, assaults on electoral observers and journalists, and the use of counterfeit ballots were widespread;

Whereas following the runoff presidential election on November 21, 2004, tens of thou-

sands of Ukrainian citizens engaged in peaceful demonstrations in Kiev and elsewhere to protest the unfair election and the declaration by the Ukrainian Central Election Commission that Viktor Yanukovich had won a majority of the votes;

Whereas the Ukrainian Supreme Court blocked the publication of the official runoff election results thus preventing the inauguration of the next president of Ukraine until the Supreme Court examined the reports of voter fraud;

Whereas on November 27, 2004, the Parliament of Ukraine passed a resolution declaring that there were violations of law during the runoff presidential election on November 21, 2004, and that the results of this election did not reflect the will of the Ukrainian people;

Whereas on December 1, 2004, the Parliament of Ukraine passed a no confidence motion regarding the government of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich;

Whereas European mediators and current Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma began discussions on December 1, 2004, to attempt to work out a resolution to the standoff between the supporters of both presidential candidates;

Whereas on December 3, 2004, the Ukrainian Supreme Court ruled that the runoff presidential election on November 21, 2004, was invalid and ordered a new presidential election to take place on December 26, 2004;

Whereas on December 8, 2004, the Parliament of Ukraine passed laws to reform the Ukrainian electoral process, including to reconstitute the Ukrainian Central Election Commission, and to close loopholes for fraud in preparation for a new presidential election;

Whereas on December 26, 2004, the people of Ukraine again went to the polls to elect the next president of Ukraine in what the consensus of domestic and international observers declared as a more democratic, transparent, and fair election process with fewer problems than the previous two rounds;

Whereas on January 10, 2005, the election victory of opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko was certified by the Ukrainian Central Election Commission; and

Whereas the runoff presidential election on December 26, 2004, signifies a turning point for Ukraine which offers new hope and opportunity to the people of Ukraine: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—

(1) commends the people and Government of Ukraine for their commitment to democracy and their determination to end the political crisis in that country in a peaceful and democratic manner;

(2) congratulates the people and Government of Ukraine for ensuring a free and fair runoff presidential election which represents the true choice of the Ukrainian people;

(3) congratulates Viktor Yushchenko on his election as President of Ukraine;

(4) applauds the Ukrainian presidential candidates, the European Union and other European representatives, and the United States Government for the role they played in helping to find a peaceful resolution of the crisis;

(5) acknowledges and welcomes the strong relationship formed between the United States and Ukraine and expresses its strong and continuing support for the efforts of the Ukrainian people and the new Government of Ukraine to establish a full democracy, the rule of law, and respect for human rights; and

(6) pledges its assistance to the strengthening of a fully free and open democratic system in Ukraine, the creation of a prosperous free market economy in Ukraine, the

reaffirmation of Ukraine's independence and territorial sovereignty, and Ukraine's full integration into the international community of democracies.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Con. Res. 16.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

□ 1415

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 16 as amended regarding the presidential elections recently held in Ukraine. I want to thank the ranking Democrat member of the Committee on International Relations and others who have joined me in sponsoring this resolution.

This resolution has been amended to include a few clarifications of the original language.

No issue was judged to be more important to Ukraine's future standing with the West and its ability to become a full partner with the Euro-Atlantic community than the strength of its democracy. The presidential election represented a historic opportunity for the people of Ukraine to decide whether or not democracy can flourish in this important nation.

So important was the desire for a free, fair and transparent election that this House overwhelmingly passed a resolution regarding the election in October. Unfortunately, despite the assurance we received from the Government of Ukraine, the rhetoric did not meet the actions. The October 31 election and the November 21 runoff election were marred by serious irregularities. The highly charged second-round vote on November 21 met all of our worst expectations.

We all have read the media accounts of the election-day problems, and I will not repeat them here. The election was so compromised by open fraud that much of Ukraine's population took to the streets determined to preserve their liberties and prevent the installation of an illegitimate regime. Given the strength of that resistance and the near-universal condemnation of the election process by the international community, the once powerful government was forced to admit that the election over which it presided was fraudulent.

In the aftermath of this contested election, an extraordinary series of events took place in Ukraine which

confirmed to many that Ukraine's democracy may have survived the effects of the election abuses and may have received new life.

The outpouring of public opposition to the faulty election process was beyond expectation. The thousands of demonstrators who flooded into the capital to protect the election outcome and to demand honest democracy even in the face of personal hardship were commendable. To their credit, the people of Ukraine spoke with determination that the will of the people would not be thwarted.

Ukrainian institutions such as the Parliament and the Supreme Court affirmed their commitment to the rule of law and took their responsibilities seriously in order to resolve this crisis.

Finally, the effort made by the European Union, Poland, Lithuania, joined by the United States to help broker a fair solution to the crisis, was a perfect example of how the transatlantic partnership is working.

As a result of the convergence of all these elements inside Ukraine, a new runoff election was held on December 26. Witnessed by thousands of international observers, this time the election was determined to be free and fair, and Victor Yushchenko emerged as the new President-elect. This past Sunday he was inaugurated as the new President of Ukraine.

This resolution congratulates Victor Yushchenko on his election as President of Ukraine. It was a difficult struggle in which his campaign was denied fundamental rights, where he was the target of an assassination attempt and where his victory in the first runoff election was literally stolen from him by forces which could not accept defeat and were now not prepared to relinquish power.

The resolution also commends the people of Ukraine for the remarkable effort they made to ensure that democracy was carried out in their country and the true will of the people to elect the president of their choice was accomplished.

Mr. Speaker, rather than an external geopolitical struggle, events which took place in Ukraine between November 21 and December 26 were all about democracy, of freedom, of real, rather than declared, rights, as we heard Mr. Yushchenko explain, and the right of the people to freely and fairly choose their leaders.

The United States Congress attaches great importance to the success of Ukraine's continued transition to a democratic state, with strong institutions and a flourishing market economy. U.S. Government policy must remain focused on promoting and strengthening a stable, democratic, and prosperous Ukraine.

Today, through H. Con. Res. 16, we congratulate President Yushchenko. We commend the people of Ukraine for their commitment to democracy and to their nation and to their place in modern Europe. I urge passage of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume, and I rise in strong support of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, all of us were excited and exhilarated as we were watching the Orange Revolution unfold in the streets of Kiev. And I want to congratulate my dear friend and the distinguished chairman of the Committee on International Relations for his leadership in presenting this resolution to the House.

Mr. Speaker, the bipartisan resolution before the House today congratulates Ukraine on having its first truly free and fair election since gaining its independence in 1991. These democratic elections are remarkable in the sense that they took place in a country which historically is closely tied to Russia, a country where, unfortunately, democracy has taken many huge steps backward over the past 4 years.

Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to express my admiration and respect for the Ukrainian people who took to the streets last November. The unwillingness of the Ukrainian people to accept a fraudulent and manipulated election and, ultimately, their success in forcing new, fair, free, and open elections should inspire people committed to democracy throughout the world.

I hope that Ukraine's elections on December 26 will have lasting effects, not only on the future of Ukraine, but also on Ukraine's immediate neighbors: Georgia, Belarus, and Moldova, and on the autocratic regimes in Central Asia that are all slated to hold elections next year.

The peaceful and powerful democratic protests in Ukraine spurred the Ukrainian Parliament to fulfill its obligations as a legislature in a democracy and to dismiss the last government.

The protests sparked a rebellion among Ukraine's journalists and TV anchors who refused to be voices for government-concocted news. The judiciary in Ukraine has also found its noble and independent mission. We can only hope that the citizens of Russia and other former Soviet republics will act similarly in the months and years ahead.

Mr. Speaker, as we congratulate the citizens of Ukraine and consider the way forward for Ukraine, we must also acknowledge that the situation in Ukraine is still very complex and the success of the new government is very far from certain.

Mr. Yushchenko has a very small window of opportunity to pass the necessary reforms that will improve the lives of ordinary Ukrainians. The United States, the European Union, and multilateral organizations may be prepared to help Ukraine; but it is Mr. Yushchenko and his political allies in the government and in the Parliament

who have to make the difficult choices to ensure that reforms are implemented.

It remains to be seen whether President Yushchenko will live up to the high expectations many of us in the West have for his presidency. I am pleased with his clean and noncorrupt political record, his willingness to take on the oligarchs, and his efforts to pass long overdue economic reforms; but I caution my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to remain vigilant so that the ugly remnants of the Ukrainian and Soviet past do not overwhelm what may be a promising future of democracy in the eastern part of Europe.

Mr. Speaker, among my concerns about the nature of the political forces in Ukraine today are a number of laws and executive decisions taken by the former president, Mr. Kuchma's lame duck government, which I think will hurt the Yushchenko presidency. The Kuchma government's decision to withdraw the Ukrainian contingent from coalition troops in Iraq was an insult to the American people and to the Government of the United States which have done so much to help Ukraine to earn its freedom and stood by her people in this difficult time.

Today, I formally call upon President Yushchenko to reverse this ill-advised decision and, in so doing, firmly signal his desire for a strong relationship with the United States. What this new administration does with respect to its international commitments will be an important marker for its future relations with the United States, and it will undoubtedly affect Ukraine's ability to integrate into Atlantic institutions. Mr. Speaker, democracy bestows priceless privileges, but it also demands the acceptance of some burdensome responsibilities.

I urge my colleagues to support H. Con. Res. 16.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), one of the leading battlers for human rights in Congress.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman, the gentleman from Illinois (Chairman HYDE), for his leadership on Ukraine and on so many other important human rights issues around the world. And for the resolution that he offered and gave us the opportunity to vote on in the latter part of last year, calling on the Ukrainian Government to respect the democracy process and to have a fair and free election which, thankfully, on the second go around, they indeed did.

I also want to thank Chairman HYDE for H. Con. Res. 16, which gives us as a body the opportunity to congratulate the people of Ukraine for conducting a democratic, transparent, and fair run-up election. The historic triumph of the Ukrainian people, Mr. Speaker, in what has come to be known around the

world as the Orange Revolution, did not come about easily. There were many moments of uncertainty.

Congratulations to Victor Yushchenko on his election as Ukraine's president. President Yushchenko displayed remarkable personal courage and dignity as he led the struggle for democracy and freedom, despite the debilitating dioxin poisoning attempt on his life and numerous other attempts that were designed to thwart him. He deserves our admiration for his incredible persistence in carrying out the fight for Ukraine's democratic future.

Mr. Speaker, I chaired the Helsinki Commission during the last 2 years, and we followed very closely the developments in Ukraine. We ourselves tried to influence and to bring to light many of the problems associated with the run-up to the election and the first election which thankfully was nullified. In various statements and speeches leading up to that election, and in hearings of the commission we noted that this election when conducted freely and fairly was perhaps the most important event in Ukraine since the restoration of independence.

□ 1430

Accordingly, we sent members of the commission staff to Ukraine to act as poll watchers to try to ensure that ballot stuffing and a myriad of devices used to steal an election did not happen.

I would also point out to my friends that in a remarkable display of people power, more than a million Ukrainians took to the streets of Kiev and elsewhere in a historic, peaceful and well-organized protest, a protest that caught the attention and the imagination of the world, and many people in dictatorships noted as well. This people power intention was to compel a second election. We got the run-off election, and thankfully, that was judged to be free and fair, and the outcome is beyond dispute.

With the stunning success of the Orange Revolution, Mr. Speaker, Ukraine is now firmly on the path to fulfill its quest to become a thriving democracy in which human rights are honored and the rule of law prevails. The model of Putin's Russia or Lukashenka's Belarus have been rejected resolutely by the Ukrainian people. Ukraine has made its choice for democracy and freedom and for integration with the Euro-Atlantic community versus reintegration with Eurasia, with all of the implications of that choice for Ukraine's independence and its freedom.

Mr. Speaker, throughout much of the 20th century, the Ukrainian people were the victims of unspeakable suffering, most notably the genocidal Ukrainian famine of the early 1930s, perpetrated by brutal dictatorships and various invaders. Toward the end of that century, the promise of renewed independence, for which so many had

sacrificed, at long last came to fruition. The Orange Revolution and the victory of Viktor Yushchenko have brought Ukraine its freedom and, despite the formidable challenges that lie ahead, the true promise of a bright future.

Mr. Speaker, finally, while listening to President Bush's inaugural address, I could not help but think of the recent events in Ukraine as a powerful example of what he called, and I quote him, "one force of history that can break the reign of hatred and resentment, and expose the pretensions of tyrants, and reward the hopes of the decent and tolerant people, and that is the force of human freedom." We have seen, Mr. Speaker, this happen in Ukraine, and we must stand ready to offer our help and support and assistance to President Yushchenko and the Ukrainian people as they consolidate their free, democratic future.

I thank my good friend for this resolution, for his great leadership, and for my good friends, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) on the Helsinki Commission, and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), the ranking member. We are united as a Congress on this very important issue.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS), my good friend and our distinguished colleague.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from California for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I represent an area in Chicago known as Ukrainian Village, and last fall, I was privileged to visit Ukraine with my friends from the Self-Reliance Credit Union to celebrate Ukrainian independence and to assist with the development of credit unions in that country.

I left impressed with the passion and commitment of the people of the Ukraine to the development of democracy in their homeland. They have been rewarded with a massive victory for their notions of the democratic process.

I congratulate President Yushchenko on his election as President of Ukraine and commend all of the diverse forces who assisted in bringing about this triumph of the democratic process.

Ukraine is emerging as a vigorous and forward-looking member of the European community, recognized for stepping away from nuclear weapons, and acknowledged for a flourishing, developing economy.

I trust that relations between the Ukraine and the United States will continue to strengthen. The elections in the Ukraine mark a kind of fork in the road for U.S. foreign policy. We can move down the road toward mutually beneficial relations with Russia and all of the former Soviet republics and allies in Eastern Europe, or we can return to the kind of relationships which characterized the Cold War.

I believe our choice ought to be clear: strong and peaceful relationships, re-

jecting all interference in the internal affairs of other states; mutually beneficial relationships based on fair trade; strict observance of international law; cultural and scientific cooperation; and people-to-people interaction.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I commend the people of the Ukraine for demonstrating what democracy can and should really mean, and that is rule by the people.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the distinguished leader on the Democratic side of the Helsinki Commission.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) for their leadership on bringing this resolution forward. It is a very important moment in the history of the Ukraine.

I also want to congratulate my colleague, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) for his leadership on the Helsinki Commission that has consistently raised the issue of fair and transparent elections among the member states for the Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe.

I want to congratulate Viktor Yushchenko and the people of the Ukraine on the fair and transparent run-off elections on December 26. What is very noteworthy is just 5 weeks earlier, that country had a run-off election that was marked by widespread fraud.

After that election on November 21, something happened in the Ukraine. The spirit of democracy that we have seen in so many of the former republics of the Soviet Union finally made its way to the Ukraine. The support from the United States was instrumental in bringing about a change in the Ukraine. The support within the OSCE in insisting that its member states comply with requirements of the fair and transparent elections also helped. The will of the people prevailed.

All of us remember what happened in Independence Square in Kiev known as the Orange Revolution. It gave strength to their country to seek freedom and fair elections. It gave strength to their institutions, and on December 3, the Supreme Court ruled the November 21 election invalid.

Now the Ukraine has followed the lead of the former Soviet republic Georgia in their Revolution of Roses to bring about a fair election process, but, Mr. Speaker, there is a hard task ahead. They have to overcome the dual legacy of corruption and disregard for the rule of law.

I know I speak for every person of this Chamber that if Ukraine follows the path of democracy and respect for human rights, as they showed in this past election, they will have this body, they will have this Nation on their side as they fight to develop a democratic system within their country.

I applaud this resolution. I strongly support it. I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 16, regarding the recent elections in Ukraine, and President Victor Yushchenko's victory.

Today, America looks upon a world very different from that which existed less than twenty years ago. Where once millions of people were trapped under the heels of tyrants, they now are enjoying the liberties we fought for more than two centuries ago. Our former rivals have become allies in the fight for freedom and democracy. The most recent example of this comes from Ukraine, where a drawn-out election has produced a new leadership for the citizens of this former Soviet Republic.

In Ukraine, the will of the people proved stronger than threats and oppression, as tens of thousands of young Ukrainians took to the streets to protest fraudulent elections. Ultimately, they were heard, and Victor Yushchenko was elected to be their President.

These elections are a triumphant accomplishment for the people of Ukraine, but by no means do they guarantee freedom. The struggle for liberty is a constant one, and in order for Ukrainians to fully realize their dream for representation, the new government of President Victor Yushchenko must rid the country of the corruption that has plagued it for so long. If this can be done, Ukraine will be able to realize a bright and productive future.

When I visited Ukraine in December, I met some of the people who made it possible to overturn the fraudulent elections. It is hard to express how inspiring it was to see the pride and dedication that those young people exhibited. I can only hope that these qualities can find a home in the hearts of the young people in other societies and fuel the desire for freedom around the globe.

I also met with the physician who diagnosed President Yushchenko with dioxin poisoning, after his face was so badly distorted by what appears to have been an effort to kill him and the reforms he represents. The symbolism behind this man's struggle is hard to ignore. Parallels can be drawn between the desperate grasps for dwindling power by others who have ruled without consent, and the cowardly poisoning of this remarkable man. President Yushchenko also represents the strength and inevitability of freedom itself. Rather than surrender, he drove forward, both for his supporters and for his country.

Through its "Orange Revolution," Ukraine has shown the world the strength and courage of its people. With its well educated workforce and bountiful natural resources, the country is poised for a prosperous future. President Yushchenko has expressed his desire for his country to join NATO and the European Union. The United States should support Ukraine's desire to fully join the west. At the same time, we must work to reassure Russia that a Ukraine that is fully integrated into Euro-Atlantic institutions is not a threat, but instead represents a more stable neighbor and a potential future for Russia itself.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my full support as a cosponsor to this resolution, congratulating the Ukrainian people for their role in ensuring a fair and free election on December 26, and congratulating Viktor Yushchenko for his perseverance in winning the presidency.

Democracy in Ukraine has come a long way in a very short time. The Orange Revolution, as it has been called, will be remembered as

a historic milestone. This revolution succeeded through the peaceful efforts of the Ukrainian people standing up for democracy and genuine liberty for their country.

Hundreds of thousands of Mr. Yushchenko's supporters, many wearing the orange color of his political party, poured into the streets of Kiev and blocked entrances to government buildings to protest a rigged vote and demand the Ukrainian Supreme Court invalidate the election results.

It was stirring to watch these men, women and children brave the bitter cold and snow in Independence Square and throughout the country, demanding to have their voices heard and their just demands met, namely, free and fair elections.

Here in Washington, I was proud to stand with nearly 1,500 Ukrainian-Americans from around the country on the day before Thanksgiving at a demonstration in front of Ukraine's embassy to demand that the will of the voters of Ukraine be upheld in that nation's presidential election. We gathered together in the rain just as the AP Wire announced that Ukraine's Election Commission had grievously certified the election of Viktor Yanukovich. Ukraine has come such a long way since then.

The United States stood with the hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians demonstrating for democracy, and made clear that Mr. Yanukovich must not be recognized as president. The U.S. must continue to stand with the people of Ukraine and strengthen the relationship that has formed between our nations.

I have joined the other co-chairs of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus in writing to Speaker HASTERT asking him to invite President Yushchenko to address a joint session of Congress. This should only be the next step. The U.S. must remain committed to assist Ukraine establish a full democracy and create a prosperous free market economy.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to vote in favor of House Concurrent Resolution 16.

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the resolution offered by my Chairman, the gentleman from Illinois, Mr. HYDE, congratulating the people of Ukraine for the fair and free election of a new President.

I also commend and congratulate President Victor A. Yushchenko for his victory—and more importantly, his determination to see fair and free elections in this fledgling democracy.

The world watched this race unfold—the poisoning of the democratic candidate, a stolen victory, and marches in the street by people hungry for freedom and for a better future for their children.

The world witnessed true passion. We witnessed people expressing themselves and their will to live freely and democratically. We witnessed people determined to take charge of their nation's destiny and risk all to do so. We witnessed young and old, families and students, camping outdoors in the blistering Ukrainian cold to protest against a sham victory and demand true elections. What we witnessed was true everyday heroism.

While we, the people of the world, witnessed victory—the people of Ukraine lived it, by forcing it. By rejecting tyranny and corruption and demanding equality and freedom, they brought about peaceful democratic regime change.

And at the inaugural, an inspiring historical event itself, we saw the symbolic break with

the past and a nation's hopes soar, as President Yushchenko released a dove—a symbol of peace—into the air to fly free. This dove rose into the sky much like the hopes of this newly free people, united for a better nation for themselves and their families.

President Yushchenko represents the continued peaceful demand by people on every continent for self-governance and free market principles.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with my colleagues, and so many of my constituents, including Emil Eisdorfer of the Bronx, New York in welcoming President Yushchenko. I welcome the people of Ukraine into the family of democratic and free nations.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Chairman (Mr. HYDE) and the Ranking Member (Mr. LANTOS) for bringing this important legislation to the Floor today.

As the former Chairman and Ranking Democrat on the Helsinki Commission, I was honored to advocate for the basic human rights of dissidents in the former Soviet Union, including in Ukraine, and know well their commitment to freedom and democracy.

And today, as this legislation recognizes, the people of Ukraine have achieved their long sought goal and under the leadership of their new President, Viktor Yushchenko, and today are moving forward with a spirit of optimism and hope.

Over the last several months, the people of Ukraine have weathered nothing short of political crisis.

The November 21st presidential runoff between then-Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich and President Yushchenko, who was then the opposition leader, was racked by voting irregularities and illegalities.

Ukrainian and international observers both determined that state resources were abused in support of Prime Minister Yanukovich, who "won" that runoff. There was illegal voting by absentee ballot, multiple voting, assaults on election observers and the use of counterfeit ballots.

Ukrainian citizens bravely engaged in peaceful demonstrations, the Parliament passed a resolution declaring that there were violations of law during the runoff, and it passed a resolution expressing no confidence in the government of Prime Minister Yanukovich.

Then, the Ukrainian Supreme Court declared the runoff invalid and ordered a new presidential election on December 26th.

As all the world watched, the people of Ukraine elected Victor Yushchenko as their President by a clear margin.

Mr. Speaker, I specifically want to note the great personal courage of President Yushchenko, who was poisoned by dioxin in late summer. He also has shown maturity and leadership throughout this political crisis.

In fact, yesterday, on his first full day in office, President Yushchenko visited Russian President Putin in Moscow, who had openly backed Mr. Yanukovich.

The new President's leadership, as well as the people of Ukraine's commitment to democracy, bodes well for this nation. And I join my colleagues in congratulating them on this accomplishment.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Viktor A. Yushchenko on being sworn in as the President of Ukraine on January 23, 2005. After enduring personal hardships, President Yushchenko enters office as

powerful symbol of victory over tyranny. His inauguration ends a bitter chapter in Ukraine's history and paves the way for the country to become a democratic leader in the former Soviet Union.

As a founding member and former Co-Chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, I have regularly spoken out in favor of a democratic Ukraine. In 2002, I introduced a resolution urging the Government of Ukraine to ensure a democratic, transparent, and fair election process leading up to the March 2002 parliamentary elections. This resolution passed overwhelmingly and let the Ukrainian government know that the U.S. would not simply rubber-stamp aid to the Ukraine without also considering the serious issues involved in Ukraine's democratic development.

Unfortunately Mr. Speaker, the former Ukrainian government continued to turn a blind-eye to the international community's insistence on truly democratic elections. The November 21 runoff presidential race was plagued by voter fraud, intimidation, and widespread use of counterfeit ballots. However, a truly significant event occurred after Viktor Yushchenko's opponent was initially declared the winner. Thousands of Ukrainians took to the streets in protest, surrounding the government buildings and refusing to leave until a new and fair election was announced. Their faith and determination was signified by the donning of orange scarves, and came to be known as the Orange Revolution. It was instrumental in forcing the Ukrainian government to hold new elections on December 26, which Yushchenko won handily. I want to commend the Ukrainian people for their commitment to ending their political crisis in a peaceful and democratic way.

The United States Congress stands ready to work with President Yushchenko as he undertakes the political and economic reforms necessary to bring about a bright future for Ukraine. I am hopeful, Mr. Speaker, that President Bush will soon invite President Yushchenko to Washington so that Congress can congratulate him and hear firsthand his vision for bringing about a reformed Ukraine dedicated to freedom and justice.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I was regrettably delayed in my return to Washington, DC, and therefore unable to be on the House Floor for rollcall votes 8 and 9.

Had I been here I would have voted "aye" for rollcall vote 8, on H. Con. Res. 16—Congratulating the people of the Ukraine for conducting a democratic, transparent, and fair runoff presidential election on December 26, 2004, and congratulating Victor Yushchenko on his election as President of Ukraine and his commitment to democracy and reform.

The voice of the Ukrainian people spoke loudly on December 26th as Ukrainians united and re-affirmed their commitment to reform, democracy, and further Trans-Atlantic cooperation with their selection of Mr. Yushchenko as President. The peaceful, orange-clad demonstrators who rallied throughout Ukraine and helped achieve this historic moment should be an inspiration to all of us. And Mr. Yushchenko's peaceful inauguration, and smooth transition to power, displays yet another positive sign for a bright future for the Ukrainians and sets an exceptional example of the power of freedom and democracy for the entire region.

As a senior Member of the House International Relations Committee, I extend my

personal congratulations to Mr. Yushchenko and wish him all the best as he works to bring Ukraine into the community of democratic nations. As freedom and democracy descends on Ukraine, I hope that their peaceful transition to a modern democratic country will serve as a further catalyst for the growing international movement to bring liberty to all peoples of the world that still suffer in the shadows of tyranny and dictatorship.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, we have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of our time.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I, too, yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 16, as amended. The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

COMMENDING COUNTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS FOR MARKING 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 39) commending countries and organizations for marking the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz and urging a strengthening of the fight against racism, intolerance, bigotry, prejudice, discrimination, and anti-Semitism.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 39

Whereas on January 27, 1945, the Nazi concentration camp at Auschwitz, including Birkenau and other related camps near the Polish city of Oswiecim, was liberated by elements of the Soviet Army under the command of Field Marshal Ivan Konev;

Whereas, according to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, at a minimum 1,300,000 people were deported to Auschwitz between 1940 and 1945, and of these, at least 1,100,000 were murdered at that camp;

Whereas an estimated 6,000,000 Jews, more than 60 percent of the pre-World War II Jewish population of Europe, were murdered by the Nazis and their collaborators at Auschwitz and elsewhere in Europe;

Whereas in addition, hundreds of thousands of civilians of Polish, Roma, and other nationalities, including in particular handicapped and retarded individuals, homosexuals, political, intellectual, labor, and religious leaders, all of whom the Nazis considered "undesirable", as well as Soviet and other prisoners of war, perished at Auschwitz and elsewhere in Europe;

Whereas the complex of concentration and death camps at Auschwitz has come to symbolize the brutality and inhumanity of the Holocaust;

Whereas on January 24, 2005, the United Nations General Assembly, in response to a resolution proposed by Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Russia, the United States, and the European Union, convened its first-ever special session marking the liberation of Auschwitz and other concentration camps on the 60th anniversary of that event;

Whereas on January 27, 2005, the Government of Poland will host a state ceremony at Auschwitz/Oswiecim, Poland, to mark the anniversary of the liberation of the camps in which the Presidents of Israel, Germany, Poland, and Russia, and the Vice President of the United States, and leaders of many other countries will participate;

Whereas January 27 of each year is the official Holocaust Memorial Day in many European countries, including Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Italy, Sweden, and the United Kingdom, and has been designated by Israel as a National Day to Combat Anti-Semitism; and

Whereas the Department of State in the Report on Global Anti-Semitism transmitted to Congress in December 2004 noted that "anti-Semitism in Europe increased significantly in recent years", "Holocaust denial and Holocaust minimization efforts" have found increasingly overt acceptance in a number of Middle Eastern countries, and anti-Semitism has appeared "in countries where historically or currently there are few or even no Jews": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recalls with gratitude the sacrifices made by Allied soldiers, as well as partisans and underground fighters, whose service and dedication resulted in the defeat of the Nazi regime and the liberation of Auschwitz and other concentration camps during World War II;

(2) expresses gratitude to those individuals and organizations that assisted and cared for the survivors of Nazi brutality and helped those survivors establish new lives;

(3) commends those countries that are marking the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, as well as the United Nations General Assembly and other international organizations, for honoring the victims of the Holocaust and using this tragic anniversary to increase awareness of the Holocaust;

(4) urges all countries and peoples to strengthen their efforts to fight against racism, intolerance, bigotry, prejudice, discrimination, and anti-Semitism; and

(5) urges governments and educators throughout the world to teach the lessons of the Holocaust in order that future generations will understand that racial, ethnic, and religious intolerance and prejudice can lead to the genocide carried out in camps such as Auschwitz.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 39, the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it is, of course, difficult to describe the horrors of the death camp at Auschwitz, the 60th anniversary of whose liberation occurs this week. One wonders if it is even appropriate to try. A commemorative reading widely used in the Jewish community suggests refraining "from dwelling on the deeds of evil ones lest we defame the image of God in which man was created."

Rather, it is better when marking this anniversary to allow ourselves to be directed forward, to be more inspired by a recollection of the liberation of the camps and heroic deeds of combat and resistance that eventually defeated the Nazis than we are repulsed by the Nazis' deeds.

This pending resolution is drafted by my esteemed colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), the ranking Democratic member of our committee, and it expresses sentiments that I trust are widely shared in the House:

That we recognize that we should fight against racism, intolerance, bigotry, prejudice, discrimination and anti-Semitism which, if unchecked, can lead to mass murder;

That we thank the liberators of the camps and those who cared for the survivors of the Nazi death machine;

And that we commend those states which now, at last, are willing to recognize an anniversary of the liberation of the camps in a body such as the United Nations General Assembly.

The administration and the governments of the allies in World War II and of the European Union deserve our thanks for their efforts to arrange for a session of the U.N. General Assembly to commemorate this anniversary, and I also thank the U.N. Secretary General for his important, personal support for the special session and for his remarks yesterday.

Yesterday's U.N. meeting did not take place on January 27, the precise anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, because many of the leaders participating at the U.N. are traveling to Auschwitz for a special commemoration at that site, where well over a million souls perished.

I commend the President for asking Vice President CHENEY to lead the American delegation to that commemoration. The President demonstrated additional insight by naming Mrs. Lynne Cheney, as well as our friends, the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) and his wife Annette Tillemann Lantos, both Holocaust survivors, among the other members of the delegation.

When the House passes this resolution, it will endow the delegation with a specific sense of the House for it to convey to the others participating in the commemoration at Auschwitz. I know that the entire delegation will represent the highest values of our Nation with great skill and sensitivity, and I wish them Godspeed on their mission.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

First, I want to express my sincere thanks to my friend, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), the distinguished chairman of the Committee on International Relations, for his steadfast support for this important resolution and for the ideas and values on which it is based and for his efforts to bring it to the floor today. I also want to thank him for his powerful and moving statement.

Mr. Speaker, I spent yesterday at the General Assembly of the United Nations which met in extraordinary session to mark the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, one of the horror camps of Hitler, and I had the opportunity of meeting with delegates from scores of countries across the globe which came to New York to pay their tribute to innocent victims and the heroic liberators of Nazi death camps.

The special session had the strong support of my friend, United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan. I should mention that there are 191 members of the United Nations, and for a long time, many of us have made special efforts to have all of them support the calling of this extraordinary session. Over 150 countries have responded in the affirmative, and I will put in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD what I can only refer to as a roll call of shame and hatred of those who failed to recognize that 6 million innocent people were put to death by Hitler, and some countries have chosen not to pay honor to their memory and tribute to the heroic liberators of the death camps.

□ 1445

After a moment of silence in memory of the more than 6 million victims of Nazi brutality, delegates from nations around the world paid tribute to our and other allied troops who made ultimate sacrifices to defeat the Nazi regime and to liberate the innocent victims in these death camps. They also honored those who helped the survivors of Nazi brutality to return to civilized life and reaffirmed their commitment that such a nightmare will never again be repeated.

The General Assembly session marked the beginning of this week of solemn observances around the world commemorating the unspeakable tragedy of the Holocaust. The final event will take place the day after tomorrow, January 27, at Auschwitz. The President of Poland, Aleksander Kwasniewski, will host an international assembly, including the President of Israel, President of Russia, and a host of other heads of state and government.

Vice President and Mrs. Cheney will lead the United States delegation on this occasion; and I am deeply honored that my wife, Annette, and I, along with Elie Wiesel, the conscience of the

Holocaust, will be members of this delegation.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution today and the commemorative activities all this week are not merely remembering the horror of the distant past. Unfortunately, the memories of mankind are all too short and new generations have been born who cannot remember, and unfortunately have not been taught, about these horrors.

A recent survey reported that 63 percent of passersby on a street in Orlando, Florida, had no idea what Auschwitz was. A survey in Britain reported that 45 percent of the respondents had never heard of Auschwitz. We are all too familiar with the recent controversy over Prince Harry appearing at a party wearing a uniform with an arm band emblazoned with the Nazi swastika.

Mr. Speaker, the conditions that led to the Holocaust are still very much with us today. Just 3 weeks ago, as mandated by my legislation adopted by this body last fall, the Department of State submitted to us its first annual "Report on Global Anti-Semitism." Its findings, in the context of the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, were chilling: "Hatred of Jews is on the increase by hate mongers of all types; anti-Israel sentiment crosses the line between criticism of Israeli policies and anti-Semitism; Holocaust denial and Holocaust minimization find increasingly overt acceptance as sanctioned historical discourse in a number of Middle Eastern countries."

The report also identifies "the recent phenomenon of anti-Semitism appearing in countries where historically or currently there are no Jews."

Mr. Speaker, this chilling report and the shocking lack of knowledge about the Holocaust only reaffirm the importance of our resolution today and the importance of the educational events that are taking place in Auschwitz and elsewhere around the globe.

Our resolution calls for governments and teachers to use this occasion to speak to young people about the unspeakable brutality of the Holocaust: the gas chambers and all they imply. Not because we are remembering the past, but because it is vital to our own future that we remember why Auschwitz happened, why the horrors of the Holocaust occurred, and why we must fight bigotry, intolerance, racism, and anti-Semitism in order to make the world safer and better and more civilized for our children and our grandchildren.

Yesterday, I had occasion at the United Nations to point out that genocides are not just matters of events of 60 years ago. In Cambodia, in Rwanda, and as we meet here today in Darfur, there is a genocide going on; and it is long overdue for all governments and all international organizations and all of us as individuals to take responsibility to terminate the ongoing nightmare. I urge all of my colleagues to support my resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), and one of the leading crusaders for human rights.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished chairman for yielding me this time and for his leadership on this resolution. I also want to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), who along with his wife is a survivor of the Holocaust. He is to be commended for his clear and unmistakable and nonambiguous condemnation of these horrific occurrences that occurred 60 years ago and before; and for his leadership today in Congress and around the world on behalf of the plight of Jews, who are still subjected to a gross anti-Semitism all over the world.

Mr. Speaker, perhaps no other single word evokes the horrors of the Holocaust as much as the name Auschwitz, the most notorious death camp in the history of humanity. On January 27, the Government of Poland will mark the liberation of that camp by the Soviet Army some 60 years ago. Leaders from across the globe, including our Vice President DICK CHENEY, will rightly and solemnly remember the victims of Auschwitz and the sacrifices of those who fought against Nazism.

This resolution, H. Res. 39, recognizes the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz in German-occupied Poland. We also seek to strengthen the fight against racism, intolerance, bigotry, prejudice, discrimination, and anti-Semitism. The Congress of the United States joins those in Poland and elsewhere who are marking this solemn occasion.

I particularly support, Mr. Speaker, this resolution's call for education about what happened during the Holocaust in general and at Auschwitz in particular. At that single camp, an estimated 1.1 million men, women, and children were slaughtered. All in all, more than 60 percent of the pre-World War II Jewish population perished during the Holocaust. Others drawn into the Nazi machinery of death included Poles, Roman and other nationalities, religious leaders and religious minorities, the mentally or physically handicapped individuals, those who were considered inferior by the Nazis. The lives of countless survivors were forever broken.

When Soviet troops entered Auschwitz, they found hundreds of thousands of men's suits, more than 800,000 women's suits, and more than 14,000 pounds of human hair, a silent and grim testimony to the magnitude of the crimes that had been committed there.

Mr. Speaker, throughout the last several years, the Helsinki Commission, which I chaired during the last 2 years, has tried to focus on this terrible rising tide of anti-Semitism that has been occurring throughout Europe, among the

OSCE's 55 countries, and really throughout the world. I am very glad that the Global Anti-Semitism Awareness Act of 2004, which the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), and I and Senator VOINOVICH and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) all worked so hard to enact, now has given us its first installment, including a very comprehensive report, which the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) just read from, and which I would like to make a part of the RECORD as well.

Members need to read this, Mr. Speaker. Anti-Semitism is on the rise, and it must be countered. A tourniquet must be put on this hate every time it reappears.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I will be happy to yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. First of all, I want to congratulate him on the extraordinary work he has done in leading the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe on behalf of the Congress and on behalf of the American people known as the Helsinki Commission. The gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) has been a stalwart, steadfast, strong voice on behalf of making sure that we confront anti-Semitism; that we confront prejudice; that we confront hate; that we confront the adverse effects of all of those human emotions, and has been a strong voice within the Parliamentary Assembly of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe dealing with this issue of anti-Semitism.

In fact, the gentleman from New Jersey and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), and others, but primarily the gentleman from New Jersey and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), have been responsible for the seminars that have been held in Europe raising the consciousness of all Europeans, as we need to raise the consciousness of all Americans and all peoples of the world to be aware of the invidious, tragic, horrific consequences of prejudice and hate.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the gentleman from New Jersey on his extraordinary leadership. He has been a giant in this effort, and I thank him.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I thank the distinguished Democrat whip for his very kind remarks; but note that this has been a very strong bipartisan effort, and he has been very much a part of that Parliamentary Assembly.

When we first began to raise this issue, one of the focuses we brought to bear on the Parliamentary Assembly was the importance of Holocaust education. And I would ask every American when they visit Washington to go down to the Holocaust Museum and walk through that museum. Look at the pictures of the people doing the

hail to Hitler, the Hail Hitler salute. Seemingly normal, everyday people who, whether they knew it or not, were buying into this extermination campaign that is the most horrific in all of human history.

We would hope that when the Parliamentary Assembly comes to Washington in July that the 220-plus members of Parliaments from each of the countries will spend at least half a day going through the Holocaust Museum to remember so that the past does not become prologue.

I would also point out to my colleagues that my own sense of Holocaust remembrance and education began when I was a young teenager, and a man who used to visit a store right next to my family's sporting goods store who was a survivor himself. I will never forget when he rolled up his sleeve one day and showed us that tattooed mark, the number. He was one of the lucky ones, like our good friend and colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), who survived this terrible time when hell was in session.

So, again, this is another one of those issues that we all are deeply concerned about. There is no division between Democrat or Republican. And again I want to thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) for his leadership on this as well. It has been extraordinary.

Mr. Speaker, I submit herewith the "Report on Global Anti-Semitism" referred to earlier.

REPORT ON GLOBAL ANTI-SEMITISM

July 1, 2003–December 15, 2004, submitted by the Department of State to the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on International Relations in accordance with Section 4 of PL 108–332, December 30, 2004. Released by the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, January 5, 2005.

Executive Summary

I. ANTI-SEMITISM

Anti-Semitism has plagued the world for centuries. Taken to its most far-reaching and violent extreme, the Holocaust, anti-Semitism resulted in the deaths of millions of Jews and the suffering of countless others. Subtler, less vile forms of anti-Semitism have disrupted lives, decimated religious communities, created social and political cleavages, and complicated relations between countries as well as the work of international organizations. For an increasingly interdependent world, anti-Semitism is an intolerable burden.

The increasing frequency and severity of anti-Semitic incidents since the start of the 21st century, particularly in Europe, has compelled the international community to focus on anti-Semitism with renewed vigor. Attacks on individual Jews and on Jewish properties occurred in the immediate post World War II period, but decreased over time and were primarily linked to vandalism and criminal activity. In recent years, incidents have been more targeted in nature with perpetrators appearing to have the specific intent to attack Jews and Judaism. These attacks have disrupted the sense of safety and well-being of Jewish communities.

The definition of anti-Semitism has been the focus of innumerable discussions and

studies. While there is no universally accepted definition, there is a generally clear understanding of what the term encompasses.

For the purposes of this report, anti-Semitism is considered to be hatred toward Jews—individually and as a group—that can be attributed to the Jewish religion and/or ethnicity. An important issue is the distinction between legitimate criticism of policies and practices of the State of Israel, and commentary that assumes an anti-Semitic character. The demonization of Israel, or vilification of Israeli leaders, sometimes through comparisons with Nazi leaders, and through the use of Nazi symbols to caricature them, indicates an anti-Semitic bias rather than a valid criticism of policy concerning a controversial issue.

Global anti-Semitism in recent years has had four main sources:

Traditional anti-Jewish prejudice that has pervaded Europe and some countries in other parts of the world for centuries. This includes ultra-nationalists and others who assert that the Jewish community controls governments, the media, international business, and the financial world.

Strong anti-Israel sentiment that crosses the line between objective criticism of Israeli policies and anti-Semitism.

Anti-Jewish sentiment expressed by some in Europe's growing Muslim population, based on longstanding antipathy toward both Israel and Jews, as well as Muslim opposition to developments in Israel and the occupied territories, and more recently in Iraq.

Criticism of both the United States and globalization that spills over to Israel, and to Jews in general who are identified with both.

II. HARASSMENT, VANDALISM AND PHYSICAL VIOLENCE

Europe and Eurasia

Anti-Semitism in Europe increased significantly in recent years. At the same time it should be noted that many European countries have comprehensive reporting systems that record incidents more completely than is possible in other countries. Because of this significant difference in reporting systems, it is not possible to make direct comparisons between countries or geographic regions. Beginning in 2000, verbal attacks directed against Jews increased while incidents of vandalism (e.g. graffiti, fire bombings of Jewish schools, desecration of synagogues and cemeteries) surged. Physical assaults including beatings, stabbings and other violence against Jews in Europe increased markedly, in a number of cases resulting in serious injury and even death. Also troubling is a bias that spills over into anti-Semitism in some of the left-of-center press and among some intellectuals.

The disturbing rise of anti-Semitic intimidation and incidents is widespread throughout Europe, although with significant variations in the number of cases and the accuracy of reporting. European governments in most countries now view anti-Semitism as a serious problem for their societies and demonstrate a greater willingness to address the issue. The Vienna-based European Union Monitoring Center (EUMC), for 2002 and 2003, identified France, Germany, the United Kingdom, Belgium, and The Netherlands as EU member countries with notable increases in incidents. As these nations keep reliable and comprehensive statistics on anti-Semitic acts, and are engaged in combating anti-Semitism, their data was readily available to the EUMC. Governments and leading public figures condemned the violence, passed new legislation, and mounted positive law enforcement and educational efforts.

In Western Europe, traditional far-right groups still account for a significant propor-

tion of the attacks against Jews and Jewish properties; disadvantaged and disaffected Muslim youths increasingly were responsible for most of the other incidents. This trend appears likely to persist as the number of Muslims in Europe continues to grow while their level of education and economic prospects remain limited.

In Eastern Europe, with a much smaller Muslim population, skinheads and other members of the radical political fringe were responsible for most anti-Semitic incidents. Anti-Semitism remained a serious problem in Russia and Belarus, and elsewhere in the former Soviet Union, with most incidents carried out by ultra-nationalist and other far-right elements. The stereotype of Jews as manipulators of the global economy continues to provide fertile ground for anti-Semitic aggression.

Holocaust and tolerance education as well as teacher training provide a potential long-term solution to anti-Semitism; however, the problem is still rapidly outpacing the solution. At the end of 2003, and continuing into this year, some Jews, especially in Europe, faced the dilemma either of hiding their identity or facing harassment and sometimes even serious bodily injury and death. The heavy psychological toll in this increasingly difficult environment should not be overlooked or underestimated.

Middle East

Jews left the countries of the Middle East and North Africa in large numbers near the mid-point of the last century as their situation became increasingly precarious. This trend continues. Today few remain, and few incidents involving the remaining members of the Jewish community have been reported. Nonetheless, Syria condoned and, in some cases, even supported through radio, television programming, news articles, and other mass media the export of the virulent domestic anti-Semitism. The official and state-supported media's anti-Zionist propaganda frequently adopts the terminology and symbols of the Holocaust to demonize Israel and its leaders. This rhetoric often crosses the line separating the legitimate criticism of Israel and its policies to become anti-Semitic vilification posing as legitimate political commentary. At the same time, Holocaust denial and Holocaust minimization efforts find increasingly overt acceptance as sanctioned historical discourse in a number of Middle Eastern countries.

Other Regions

The problem of anti-Semitism is not only significant in Europe and in the Middle East, but here are also worrying expressions of it elsewhere. For example, in Pakistan, a country without a Jewish community, anti-Semitic sentiment fanned by anti-Semitic Articles in the press is widespread. This reflects the more recent phenomenon of anti-Semitism appearing in the countries where historically or currently there are few or even no Jews.

Elsewhere, in Australia, the level of intimidation and attacks against Jews and Jewish property and anti-Zionist and anti-Semitic rhetoric decreased somewhat over the past year. This year, New Zealand experienced several desecrations of Jewish tombstones and other incidents. In the Americas, in addition to manifestations of anti-Semitism in the United States, Canada experienced a significant increase in attacks against Jews and Jewish property. There were notable anti-Semitic incidents in Argentina and isolated incidents in a number of other Latin American countries.

III. MEDIA

The proliferation of media outlets (television, radio, print media and the Internet)

has vastly increased the opportunity for purveyors of anti-Semitic material to spread their propaganda unhindered. Anti-hate laws provide some protection, but freedom of expression safeguards in many western countries limited the preventive measures that governments could take. Satellite television programming easily shifts from one provider to another and Internet offerings cross international borders with few or no impediments.

In June, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) organized a separate meeting in Paris dealing with intolerance on the Internet, and subsequently approved a decision on "Promoting Tolerance and Media Freedom on the Internet." The decision is prescriptive in nature and carefully caveated to avoid conflict with the varied legal systems within the countries of the OSCE. It calls upon Participating States to investigate and fully prosecute criminal threats on violence based on anti-Semitic and other intolerance on the Internet, as well as to establish programs to educate children about hate speech and other forms of bias.

Critics of Israel frequently use anti-Semitic cartoons depicting anti-Jewish images and caricatures to attack the State of Israel and its policies, as well as Jewish communities and other who support Israel. These media attacks can lack any pretext of balance or even factual basis and focus on the demonization of Israel. The United States is frequently included as a target of such attacks, which often assert that U.S. foreign policy is made in Israel or that Jews control the media and financial markets in the United States and the rest of the world. During the 2004 United States presidential campaign, the Arab press ran numerous cartoons closely identifying both of the major American political parties with Israel and with Israeli Prime Minister Sharon.

"The Protocols of the Elders of Zion," a text debunked many years ago as a fraud perpetrated by Czarist intelligence agents, continued to appear in the Middle East media, not as a hoax, but as established fact. Government-sponsored television in Syria ran lengthy serials based on the Protocols. The representations emphasized blood libel and the alleged control by the Jewish community of international finance. The clear purpose of the programs was to incite hatred of Jews and of Israel. Copies of the Protocols and other similar anti-Semitic forgeries were readily available in Middle Eastern countries, former Soviet republics and elsewhere. Similarly, allegations that Jews were behind the 9/11 attacks were widely disseminated.

In November 2004, Al-Manar, the Lebanon-based television network controlled by Hizballah featuring blatantly anti-Semitic material, obtained a limited 1-year satellite broadcast license from the French authorities. This was revoked shortly thereafter due to Al-Manar's continued transmission of anti-Semitic material. Al-Manar is now off the air in France. Other Middle East networks with questionable content, such as Al-Jazeera and Al-Arabiya, maintain their French broadcast licenses.

IV. ACTIONS BY GOVERNMENTS

In Europe and other geographic regions, many governments became increasingly aware of the threat presented by anti-Semitism and spoke out against it. Some took effective measures to combat it with several countries, including France, Belgium, and Germany, now providing enhanced protection for members of the Jewish community and Jewish properties.

For the most part, the police response to anti-Semitic incidents was uneven. Most law

enforcement officials are not specifically trained to deal with hate crimes, particularly anti-Semitic hat crimes. Police sometimes dismissed such crimes as hooliganism or petty crime, rather than attacks against Jews because of their ethnicity or religion, or because the assailants identified the victims with the actions of the State of Israel.

In countries where anti-Semitism is a serious problem, specialized training for police and members of the judiciary remains a pressing need. Many nations still do not have hate crimes laws that address anti-Semitic and other intolerance-related crimes. In some instances where such laws already exist, stronger enforcement is needed.

V. MULTILATERAL ACTION

Anti-Semitism is a global problem that requires a coordinated multinational approach. Thus far, the most effective vehicle for international cooperation has been the OSCE, comprised of 55 participating states from Europe, Eurasia and North America plus Mediterranean and Asian partners for cooperation. The OSCE organized two groundbreaking conferences on anti-Semitism—in June 2003, in Vienna and in April 2004, in Berlin. These were the first international conferences to focus high-level political attention solely on the problem of anti-Semitism. The Vienna Conference identified anti-Semitism as a human rights issue.

OSCE Foreign Ministers gave further high-level political acknowledgment to the seriousness of anti-Semitism at their December 2003 meeting in Maastricht. There they took the formal decision to spotlight the need to combat anti-Semitism by deciding to task the OSCE's Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) to serve as a collection point for hate crimes information. ODIHR is now working with OSCE member states to collect information on hate crimes legislation and to promote "best practices" in the areas of law enforcement, combating hate crimes, and education. ODIHR established a Program on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination and now has an advisor to deal exclusively with the issue.

At their December 2004 meeting in Sofia, OSCE Foreign Ministers welcomed the Chair-in-Office's decision to appoint three special representatives for tolerance issues, including a special representative for anti-Semitism, to work with member states on implementing specific commitments to fight anti-Semitism. In addition, the Foreign Ministers accepted the Spanish Government's offer to host a third anti-Semitism conference in June 2005 in Cordoba.

The United Nations also took important measures in the fight against anti-Semitism. One was a June 2004 seminar on anti-Semitism hosted by Secretary General Kofi Annan. Another measure was a resolution of the United Nations Third Committee in November 2004, which called for the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance, explicitly including anti-Semitism.

Education remains a potentially potent antidote for anti-Semitism and other forms of intolerance. Following the first Stockholm Conference in 1998, convoked out of concern for the decreasing level of knowledge of the Holocaust particularly among the younger generation, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States decided to address the issue collaboratively. The Task Force for International Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance, and Research (ITF) emerged from this initial effort.

Today the ITF, an informal international organization operating on the basis of consensus, and without a bureaucracy, consists of 20 countries. ITF member states agree to commit themselves to the Declaration of the Stockholm International Forum on the Hol-

ocaust and to its implementation. Current members of the ITF include Argentina, Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and the United States. In addition four other countries (Croatia, Estonia, Greece, Slovakia) maintain a liaison relationship with the ITF.

VI. U.S. GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO MONITOR AND COMBAT ANTI-SEMITISM

The U.S. Government is committed to monitoring and combating anti-Semitism throughout the world as an important human rights and religious freedom issue. As President Bush said when he signed the Global Anti-Semitism Review Act on October 16, 2004, "Defending freedom also means disrupting the evil of anti-Semitism."

Annually, the U.S. Department of State publishes the International Religious Freedom Report and the Country Reports on Human Rights Practices. Both detail incidents and trends of anti-Semitism worldwide. The State Department's instructions to U.S. Embassies for the 2004 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices explicitly required them to describe acts of violence against Jews and Jewish properties, as well as actions governments are taking to prevent this form of bigotry and prejudice.

In multilateral fora, the Department of State called for recognition of the rise of anti-Semitism and the development of specific measures to address it. The Department played a leading role in reaching agreement in the OSCE to hold the two conferences on combating anti-Semitism noted above in Section V. Former New York City Mayors Rudolph Giuliani and Edward Koch led the United States delegations to the conferences in Vienna and Berlin, respectively. Each brought a wealth of knowledge and experience in fostering respect for minorities in multicultural communities. Key NGOs worked productively with the Department to prepare for these conferences. In his address to the Berlin Conference, Secretary Powell said: "We must not permit anti-Semitism crimes to be shrugged off as inevitable side effects of inter-ethnic conflicts. Political disagreements do not justify physical assaults against Jews in our streets, the destruction of Jewish schools, or the desecration of synagogues and cemeteries. There is no justification for anti-Semitism." At the United Nations, the United States has supported resolutions condemning anti-Semitism both at the General Assembly and at the UN Commission on Human Rights.

An important lesson of the Holocaust is that bigotry and intolerance can lead to future atrocities and genocides if not addressed forcefully by governments and other sectors of society. The United States is committed to working bilaterally to promote efforts with other governments to arrest and roll back the increase in anti-Semitism. President Bush affirmed that commitment during his visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau in 2003, stating: "This site is a sobering reminder that when we find anti-Semitism, whether it be in Europe, in America or anywhere else, mankind must come together to fight such dark impulses."

U.S. Embassies implement this commitment by speaking out against anti-Semitic acts and hate crimes. Ambassadors and other embassy officers work with local Jewish communities to encourage prompt law enforcement action against hate crimes. In Turkey, the U.S. Embassy worked closely with the Jewish community following the November 2003 bombing of the Neve Shalom Synagogue. In the Middle East, our embassies have protested to host governments

against practices that have allowed their institutions to promote anti-Semitism, such as the heavily watched television series *Rider Without a Horse* and *Diaspora* that respectively promoted the canard of the blood libel, and "The Protocols of Elders of Zion." U.S. bilateral demarches were effective in specific instances, but more remains to be done to encourage national leaders to speak out forcefully against anti-Semitism and in support of respectful, tolerant societies.

Building on the success achieved to date, the Department of State is accelerating its efforts with its partners globally to improve both monitoring and combating anti-Semitism in three specific areas: education, legislation, and law enforcement. The Department will continue to promote the development of Holocaust education curricula and teacher training programs. A successful program in this area has been summer teacher training partially funded through U.S. Embassies in cooperation with the Association of American Holocaust Organizations (AAHO) and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM). At the October 2004 OSCE Human Dimension Meeting, the United States and France hosted a seminar on methodologies for teaching the Holocaust in multicultural societies. The United States also supports the work of NGOs in promoting educational programs abroad, in part based on successful seminars in the United States that teach respect for individuals and minority groups. Additionally, the U.S. State Department has supported efforts to promote tolerance in the Saudi educational system including by sponsoring the travel of religious educators to the United States to examine interreligious education.

The roots of anti-Semitism run deep and the United States does not underestimate the difficulty of reversing the recent resurgence of this ancient scourge. The legislative and executive branches, together with NGOs, constitute an important partnership in continuing the vital effort to find creative ways to monitor, contain, and finally stop anti-Semitism.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to express my deepest admiration to both my friend, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), who not only on the Helsinki Commission and in this body but in their own personal activities have provided extraordinary leadership in fighting bigotry and hatred in all its forms.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the Democratic whip and my good friend.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time, and I rise as well to say that no Member of this body has been any more personally affected, and certainly no Member of this body has more consistently raised the consciousness of the American people and, indeed, the international community on the importance of never forgetting.

□ 1500

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Illinois (Chairman HYDE), who is committed to this issue and has been a leader and has traveled and headed the delegations of the Helsinki Commission to the Parliamentary Assembly and raised our voice in foreign lands.

I also thank the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), the ranking member, the only Holocaust survivor ever elected to Congress. In particular, I want to say to the gentleman from California, his indefatigable commitment to human freedom and basic human dignity is a source of inspiration to all of us privileged to serve with the gentleman. It should be emulated by us all.

Madam Speaker, 60 years ago at 3 p.m. on January 27, 1945, Soviet Red Army soldiers entered Auschwitz concentration camp. Those of us who visited Auschwitz long after that date but who saw the horrible implements of death constructed there by the Nazi regime can only imagine, knowing the horror that we felt, the horror and revulsion that those Soviet soldiers, human beings, must have felt as they entered that camp in a village in southern Poland 30 miles west of Krakow. What they discovered there haunts us today and should haunt us every day.

A Russian Army officer described the reaction to the sight of the camp's remaining 7,000 prisoners, who had been too ill or weak to move and were left to die in the cold by the fleeing Germans. He said, "The soldiers from my battalion asked me, 'Let us go. We cannot stay. This is unbelievable.' It was so terrible, it was hard for the mind to absorb it."

But the mind, Madam Speaker, must never forget it. The Nazis had spent weeks moving the most able-bodied prisoners, destroying documents and bulldozing buildings. But the liberation of the largest Nazi concentration camp, where 1.5 million innocent souls were murdered, women and children, young and old, opened the world's eyes to the unspeakable evil of the Holocaust.

While it is appropriate that this somber day be marked in ceremonies all around the globe, it will be a further tragedy if on this occasion we only look back without also looking ahead. The gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) did that.

We cannot remember the liberation of the concentration camps and the defeat of the Nazis in World War II and at the same time cast a blind eye toward the growing problem of anti-Semitism that still infects the world today, and tragically grows today. Nor can we ignore the hatred and prejudice that fuels the genocide in Sudan today. The gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) mentioned Darfur.

Hatred knows no gender, no race, no ethnicity. It lurks in man's heart today as surely as it did during the Holocaust. Even today in this country we talk about some people in our country in a way that demeans them and dehumanizes them and gives to others the misapprehension that they can act against those people, whoever they might be. We see tragic instances of that. And that reality, as painful as it is to accept, compels us to use this solemn occasion to restate our commit-

ment to freedom and basic human rights. And it compels us to fight hatred and prejudice wherever it rears its head.

Our President spoke just a few days ago in his Inaugural Address about the commitment of this country to freedom, to liberty and, yes, to human rights. He was right to do so. We owe those souls who perished at the hands of Nazis at Auschwitz, who perished at the hands of Milosevic, who died at the hands of those in Sudan and in every other place where hate and prejudice was the motivation for murder. We owe those souls our unremitting pledge to never, never, never permit these horrific periods in human history to be repeated. I was one of those who felt that we waited too long as we saw the genocide in Serbia and in Kosovo and in Bosnia. We must not delay our response. If we do so, we remember Auschwitz, but we remember it without learning its lesson.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCHWARTZ), a new Member of the House who has already made her mark on this institution.

Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise with profound gratitude to the people of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District for electing me to represent them in Congress. As the daughter of a Holocaust survivor, I am honored that my first opportunity to speak on the House floor is on an issue so close to my heart.

My colleagues, the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) and the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), I and so many others stand today in remembrance of the 6 million Jews who lost their lives during the Second World War, many of whom were our aunts and uncles, mothers and fathers, friends and loved ones.

My mother, Renee Perl, was one of the many who fled their homeland. Forced to start anew at the young age of 14, she left Austria alone, spending time in Holland and England before arriving in Philadelphia at the age of 16 in 1941. Once arriving on the shores of America, my mother, like so many Jews, was hesitant to tell her story, hoping that by trying to forget about the war, the violence, the dislocation, the fear she could move on. Yet once in the United States, those who survived the Holocaust could not hide their gratitude and love for this country, relishing the opportunity and freedom granted to them as new Americans. My own love and respect for our country and my belief in our responsibility to each other stems in great part from this strong sense of patriotism.

Elie Wiesel once said, "We should all respect the uniqueness, the originality, the specificity in one another." It was leaders like Mr. Wiesel who inspired Jews to acknowledge the importance of remembering, of telling the stories, so as to never let a Holocaust happen again.

My colleagues, what makes our country great is we respect differences: ethnic, religious, race, gender, geographic and political; that we have a government that reflects and embraces our Nation's broad diversity; and that we, as a community, are afforded opportunities to recall the good and the dark times in our shared history.

Madam Speaker, I am tremendously grateful for being able to share my family's story, to know my mother would be proud to know that we were not only paying tribute to those who suffered tremendous pain and hardship, but to recall the Jewish people's great spirit to survive, continued faith in God, and unwavering belief in freedom and democracy.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Democratic leader on the Helsinki Commission.

(Mr. CARDIN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARDIN. Madam Speaker, as we commemorate the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, I want to acknowledge how fortunate we are in this body to have the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) as one of our Members. His passion on human rights is so welcomed in this body. He has been the champion on these issues for many years. We thank the gentleman for everything he has meant to our sensitivity on human rights issues. The gentleman has seen it firsthand and has helped us understand the need for activism in this body.

I also acknowledge the gentleman from Illinois (Chairman HYDE) for his leadership on human rights issues, and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) who is our leader on the Helsinki Commission, not only on this issue, but on anti-Semitism generally. He has led the effort in the international body to make sure that we pay attention to the rise of anti-Semitism in Europe today.

Last year I had an opportunity to visit Auschwitz and see firsthand where a million people lost their lives in the factory of death. It has an impact on all of us who have seen how inhumane people can be.

Madam Speaker, in 1991 the participating states of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe agreed in Krakow, Poland, to "strive to preserve and protect these monuments and sites of remembrance, including extermination camps, and the related archives, which are themselves testimonials to their tragic experience in their common past. Such steps need to be taken in order that those experiences may be remembered, may help to teach present and future generations of these events, and thus ensure that they are never repeated."

Auschwitz is just such a site of remembrance. With this resolution, we mourn innocent lives lost and vibrant communities destroyed. We honor

those who fought fascism and helped liberate Auschwitz and other Nazi camps.

This resolution also goes further and speaks to the compelling need for Holocaust education throughout the globe. In the words of the Krakow Document, we must "teach present and future generations of these events, and thus ensure that they are never repeated." This chilling rise of anti-Semitism in recent years tells us that more must be done.

Madam Speaker, I can speak a long time on this subject. This resolution calls on all nations and people to strengthen their efforts to fight against racism, intolerance, bigotry, prejudice, discrimination and anti-Semitism. I am proud that this body is bringing forward this resolution. I commend my colleagues and the leadership of the committee for bringing it forward. I urge all of my colleagues to support the resolution.

Madam Speaker, Yad Vashem exhibits the sketches of Zinoviev Tolstoy, a Soviet soldier who was among those who liberated Majdanek and Auschwitz, under the fitting title, "Private Tolstoy at the Gates of Hell." For surely that is what he saw and what Auschwitz was. As ranking member of the Helsinki Commission, I visited Auschwitz last year and saw for myself the furnaces that took the lives of more than one million human beings at the camp. These furnaces stoked hatred and intolerance to a degree never before seen in human history.

Today, I rise as a cosponsor and in strong support of this resolution, which seeks to join the voices of this body to all those gathered in Poland and elsewhere in our common remembrance of the liberation of Auschwitz 60 years ago, on January 27, by Soviet Army troops.

I commend Congressman LANTOS, the ranking member of the International Relations Committee, for introducing this resolution and for his steadfast leadership in his work against anti-Semitism and for Holocaust education and awareness. I am also deeply heartened that the United Nations General Assembly, at the request of many governments and with the support of Secretary General Kofi Annan, convened a special session on January 24 to mark the liberation of the Auschwitz and other death camps.

Madam Speaker, in 1991, the participating State of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) agreed in Cracow, Poland, to "strive to preserve and protect those monuments and sites of remembrance, including most notably extermination camps, and the related archives, which are themselves testimonials to their tragic experiences in their common past. Such steps need to be taken in order that those experiences may be remembered, may help to teach present and future generations of these events, and thus ensure that they are never repeated."

Auschwitz is just such a site of remembrance. With this resolution, we mourn innocent lives lost and vibrant communities destroyed. We honor those who fought fascism and helped liberate Auschwitz and other Nazi camps.

This resolution also goes further and speaks to the compelling need for Holocaust education throughout the globe. In the words of

the Cracow Document, we must "teach present and future generations of these events, and thus ensure that they are never repeated." The chilling rise of anti-Semitism in recent years tells us that more must be done. This resolution calls on all nations and peoples to strengthen their efforts to fight against racism, intolerance, bigotry, prejudice, discrimination, and anti-Semitism.

In the last Congress I was pleased to join with Mr. LANTOS and Helsinki Commission Chairman CHRIS SMITH in working to enact the Global Anti-Semitism Review Act of 2004. Earlier this month the U.S. State Department issued its first-ever global report on anti-Semitism, as mandated by the legislation. We now have a roadmap to build upon in the future, which details both best practices by states as well as areas in which participating States are still falling short of their OSCE commitments.

In April 2004 I attended the Conference on Anti-Semitism of the OSCE in Berlin with Secretary of State Colin Powell. The 55 Participating States of the OSCE adopted a strong action plan, the Berlin Declaration, which lays out specific steps for states to take regarding Holocaust education, data collection and monitoring of hate crimes against Jews, and improved coordination between nongovernmental organizations and European law enforcement agencies.

During our conference, on the evening of April 28, President Johannes Rau of Germany hosted a dinner for the President of the State of Israel Moshe Katsav. President Katsav spoke powerfully about the need to combat the rising tide of anti-Semitism throughout the world. I cannot tell you how powerful it was to listen to the German President and the Israeli President address the issue of anti-Semitism together in Berlin.

Let me just highlight one section of President Katsav's remarks:

"The violence against the Jews in Europe is evidence that anti-Semitism, which we have not known since the Second World War, is on the rise. This trend of the new anti-Semitism is a result of the aggressive propaganda, made possible by modern technologies, globalization and abuse of democracy and which creates an infrastructure for developing and increasing anti-Semitism, of a kind we have not known before . . . Many times I have heard voices saying that anti-Semitism is not unique and that it is no different from other kinds of racism. Anti-Semitism should indeed receive special attention. Hatred against the Jews has existed for many generations and it is rooted in many cultures and continents through the world. However, now anti-Semitism has become an instrument for achieving political aims . . . The genocide of the Jews was the result of anti-Semitism and was not caused by a war between countries or a territorial conflict and, therefore, anti-Semitism is a special danger for world Jewry and the whole of Europe."

I urge others here today to join me in supporting this resolution.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE), a courageous fighter for human rights in all realms.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), the ranking member, and the gentleman from Illinois (Chairman HYDE).

I could spend my 2 minutes speaking about the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) and the defining stature that he represents in this body and in this Nation. This resolution today on Auschwitz really helps to confirm all of the teaching that the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) has been able to provide to those of us who have been willing to be tutored.

Today we acknowledge the 6 million murdered and the terrible tragic loss of life in all the other concentration camps throughout WWII. Today we stand in support of a resolution that acknowledges that brutality, but does not accept it. Although it existed in human treatment, we stand today against it. Today we also acknowledge and humbly pray over the souls who lost their lives and make a pledge on the floor of the House: Never, never again.

Madam Speaker, I rise today simply to be one of those who would never ignore this horrific tragedy and terrible brutality, and to be able to lift my voice in support of H. Res. 39 by, first, thanking the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) for bringing the personal inhumane experience that he faced and confronted to this Congress and to America so that we might learn to be better.

I am very grateful that the resolution stands against bigotry and speaks to the world that we must do better. I ask my colleagues to support this resolution and, of course, to acknowledge the fact that we can be a better Nation if we are reminded of the fact that we are all fighters against inhumane treatment to others around us.

□ 1515

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). The time of the gentleman from California has expired.

Mr. HYDE. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), and I ask unanimous consent that he be permitted to control that time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I am very pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. OWENS) who has been an indefatigable fighter for human rights for all people.

(Mr. OWENS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, this 60th anniversary observance of the liberation of Auschwitz presents the people of all civilized nations with an opportunity to focus a searing light of exposure on one of the deadliest landmark events of human history. More than 1 million human beings died in this hellish extermination factory which was part of a system that murdered more than 6 million Jews.

As often as possible, in every way conceivable, the leaders of the present

must be forced to gaze with thorough and undivided attention upon the horror of the Holocaust. The observance of this 60th anniversary is an empty, useless ceremony if it does not arouse massive, worldwide anger, pity, and fear. The anger must be directed not only at Hitler and the SS; but also the anger should be focused on the millions who helped to maintain the poison fog of racism, anti-Semitism, and religious hatred. The pity levels must be raised high to envelop all of the more than 6 million individual souls whose opportunities to breathe and live, to develop their potential and to pursue happiness were so brutally snuffed out. The fear must be shared by us all as we contemplate our unforgivable impotence in the face of other epidemics of genocide that have been allowed since the landmark lesson of the Holocaust.

Stalin and his gulags; Pol Pot and his killing fields; the Hutu intelligentsia and their exhortation to "cut the tall trees" with machete executions. All of this competition with Hitler has occurred within the last 60 years. We applaud the civilized governments of the world for drawing a line at Kosovo. But we are burdened with a great fear that more mass slaughters are coming because we still have not learned this most profound lesson of modern history.

On the occasion of this 60th anniversary, we must remember that the lesson of history is that perpetrators of genocide must have us come down on them with an uncompromising, righteous wrath; and we must trumpet their punishment throughout the Earth. The message for future mass murderers with their convoluted rationale and twisted theories is that there will be swift and universally supported punishment. The message for the populations that support them is that there will be no acceptance of sentimental schemes for truth and reconciliation. For ignoring Auschwitz, there can be no pardons, no acceptance of sentimental schemes for truth and reconciliation. For permitting their leaders to violate the most important principles of human society, the citizens of any nation must be collectively judged and their nation must be forced to pay a special debt to civilization.

Madam Speaker, this sixtieth anniversary observance of the liberation of Auschwitz presents the people of all civilized nations with an opportunity to focus a searing light of exposure on one of the deadliest landmark events of human history. More than one million human beings died in this hellish extermination factory which was part of a system that murdered more than six million Jews.

As often as possible, in every way conceivable, the leaders of the present must be forced to gaze with thorough and undivided attention upon the horror of the holocaust. Auschwitz and all of the similar death camps document the levels to which civilized men can descend. No savage and primitive tribe could ever have engaged in such monumental and systematic slaughter. That these crimes were committed by one of the most scientific

ally advanced, well educated, culturally sophisticated, thoroughly organized nations that the world has ever seen is a fact that magnifies the need to forever study this bloody man-made tsunami.

The observance of this sixtieth anniversary is an empty, useless ceremony if it does not arouse massive worldwide anger, pity and fear. The anger must be directed not only at Hitler and the SS; but also the anger should be focused on the millions who help to maintain the poison fog racism, anti-Semitism and religious hatred. The pity levels must be raised high to envelope all of the more than six million individual souls whose opportunities to breathe and live, to develop their potential and to pursue happiness were so brutally snuffed out. The fear must be shared by us all as we contemplate our unforgivable impotence in the face of other epidemics of genocide that have been allowed since the landmark lesson the holocaust.

Stalin and his gulags; Pol Pot and his killing fields; the Hutu intelligentsia and their exhortation to "cut the tall trees" with machete executions; all of this competition with Hitler has occurred within the last sixty years. We applaud the civilized governments of the world for drawing a line at Kosovo. But we are burdened with a great fear that more mass slaughters are coming because we still have not learned this most profound lesson of modern history.

On the occasion of this sixtieth anniversary let us remember that the trials of the major killers at Nuremberg also failed to take place, that Nazi scholars are still daring to deny the reality of the holocaust. We must remember that new statutes are being contemplated for Stalin. We must also note the fact the Pol Pot died of natural causes. We must show fear in the face of our present inability to advance the trials and convictions of many of the obvious architects of the genocide in Rwanda.

The lesson of history is that we must come down on the perpetrators of genocide with an uncompromising righteous wrath and trumpet their punishment throughout the earth. The message for future mass murders with their convoluted rational and twisted theories is that there will be swift and universally supported punishment. The message for the populations that support genocide in the future must be that there is no acceptable excuse for your actions. For ignoring Auschwitz there can be no pardons, no acceptance of sentimental schemes for truth and reconciliation. For permitting their leaders to violate the most vital principles of human society the citizens must be collectively judged and their nation must be forced to pay a special debt to civilization.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GENE GREEN) who has fought against discrimination, bigotry and anti-Semitism throughout his entire career.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution. January 27, 2005, marks the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz and serves as a reminder to each of us where racism, bigotry, and religious intolerance can lead.

Poles, Soviets, and prisoners of other nationalities were imprisoned and died in this camp; but it was the mass murder of millions of European Jews by

Hitler that made Auschwitz the symbol of inhumanity and brutality during the Holocaust.

From 1940 to 1945, the Nazis deported over 1 million Jews, 150,000 Poles, 23,000 Roma, 15,000 Soviet POWs, and over 10,000 prisoners of other nationalities to Auschwitz. Nearly 1.5 million prisoners perished in gas chambers or died of starvation and disease. Overall, 6 million Jews died in the Holocaust.

Sixty years after Allied troops liberated Auschwitz, it is important to remember what lessons can be taken from the unspeakable atrocities that took place during the Holocaust. It was racism, bigotry, anti-Semitism, and general religious intolerance that drove Hitler to pursue the destruction of the Jewish people.

To honor the victims who lost their lives in the Holocaust and ensure that such acts never happen again, there must be a concerted effort to fight intolerance and discrimination. That is what this resolution does.

Madam Speaker, I have not had the opportunity to visit Auschwitz; but before I was elected to Congress in 1990, my family and I and our two children visited Dachau in southern Germany, not only for my wife and I but also for our, at that time, 14- and 15-year-old children to see what inhumanity mankind could do to itself and not only for our generation but for that next generation to make sure that that never happens again.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ).

Mr. HYDE. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ).

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). The gentlewoman from Florida is recognized for 2 minutes.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, Libusa Breder, a Jewish prisoner, said, "There was no God in Auschwitz. There were such horrible conditions that God decided not to go there."

With the passage of time, it has become more difficult for my generation to grasp what happened 60 years ago. The contributions and courage of the Greatest Generation enabled my generation of Americans to grow up in peace and be the first generation in decades to live without facing conscription.

In Auschwitz, at least 1.5 million innocent people suffered unfathomable pain and ultimate death. They were from many different nations, over 90 percent of them Jews. South Florida, where I am from, is home to the second largest population of Holocaust survivors in North America, the majority of whom live in my home county of Broward.

The concept of "never again" was instilled in me for my entire life. Unfortunately, in recent times, we have had vicious criminal acts against humanity, and we must remember that we

must stay vigilant and not let the passage of time weaken our resolve. We are all proud of the Greatest Generation; but with today's resolution and the anniversary approaching, we focus on the Lost Generation.

It is our solemn responsibility to make sure that these lost souls did not die in vain. We must never forget what happened to them, and we must use the lessons of Auschwitz to stop modern-day atrocities such as the ethnic cleansing in Sudan. History can and will repeat itself unless we stand in the way and fight against evil.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

This is one of the finest moments of this body. We stand together without any difference as to party or geographic region in our determination that human rights throughout our land and throughout this globe be honored and respected.

I urge all of our colleagues to vote for this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HYDE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would like to say to the gentleman from Florida who remarked that God forgot to come to Auschwitz, if she would read Elie Wiesel's book "Night," she would find an instance where the Nazis lined up the Jewish prisoners in front of the gallows and they were having a hanging of some person who tried to escape and a low voice said, "Where is God?" Someone said, "He's up there on the gallows." He was there. He was just being punished.

The gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF), there is a long, honorable list of people who are really the conscience of this Congress and, hence, of our country on this matter of human rights.

God must look down on this globe and see the killing that goes on in the Sudan, that went on in the gulag, that goes on in China. We just honored Ukraine's accession to democracy. Well do we remember the collectivization of the farms in the early thirties when millions of Ukrainians were starved to death. Life is very cheap. I think every human being should visit Auschwitz. It is an education. It makes you understand the depths to which human nature can sink.

Someone said when Napoleon died it was because God got bored with him. I wonder that God is not bored with us, the cheapening of life. Democracy is more than a way of establishing rules for lawsuits, for litigation. It ascribes value to every human being, intrinsic value. That is the important thing about democracy.

I remember as a young man, I thought education was the cure for bigotry, but Germany had one of the high-

est literacy rates in Europe when Hitler ruled that country and they marched with their swastikas. So it is a little more than education. It is, as President Bush said in his inaugural, we have to change hearts.

This has been a good debate. We are going back to principles. We are going back to the value of human life and how capable we are of abusing it and of denigrating it. Let us hope that this resolution elevates people's ideas, focuses on how terrible we have treated other human beings, and resolve to do better.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I would like to place in the RECORD the compelling story of Mr. Marian Wojciechowski, now a U.S. citizen, who is an Auschwitz survivor. The book "Seven Roads to Freedom", in which his chapter is included, traces the tragic journey of 6 million human beings who perished in Nazi death camps. Mr. Wojciechowski and his wife Wladyslawa survived, by a series of miracles and brave encounters. History must record these noble stories so their vast sacrifice shall be remembered and honored. May the world save itself in the future from this horrific suffering. This story, translated into English, from the original Polish publication deserves our attention and respect on this 60th anniversary commemoration of the liberation of Auschwitz.

SEVEN ROADS TO FREEDOM

(Edited by Miroslawa Zawadzka and Andrzej Zawadzki)

THE MARTYROLOGY OF POLES IN HILTER'S DEATH CAMPS

(Translated by: Anna Wojciechowski)

(A Presentation delivered by Marian Wojciechowski on May 8, 1998 to the Discussion Club at the American Polish Cultural Center in Troy, Michigan, USA).

"Who is victorious shall be free, and who has died is already free."—words from "Warszawianka"

6 million victims of the Holocaust in Poland in the years 1939–1945: 3 million Christian Poles; 3 million Jewish Poles.

The historians of future generations will research the archives, evaluate and then write how many additional hundreds of thousands of Polish Christians—on whose orders, where, by whom and under what circumstances—were murdered in the years 1939–1989 by the henchmen of communist authorities.

1. INTRODUCTION

I'm very happy that I came here, because I see that I have already met here many colleagues and friends from past times—now pleasant ones, in America—as well as from the times of our national martyrology: the occupation and the concentration camps. I was in three concentration camps, in Auschwitz, Gross Rosen and Leitmeritz, and here I meet after many years my colleague, Mr. Romanski, who was in the same camps and we knew each other in Gross Rosen and met there together quite frequently; and with the husband of Mrs. Romanska, who is here today—Zbyszek Romanski and I were friends, and we talked for many hours during the time free from labor in the Gross Rosen camp.

At the beginning I would like to make clear, that I am describing my wartime and concentration camp experiences not for the purpose of inciting any hatred in anyone, or anger, or a desire for revenge. Absolutely not. For a long time, I was unable either to speak or to write on this subject, because

there stood before my eyes all the macabre scenes which one saw then, as well as deaths, which took away many of my friends and acquaintances under horrible camp conditions. I was afraid of these memories; I did not want to talk about them.

But time heals wounds, and in the end, we see that it is necessary to touch on this subject, because history repeats itself. History repeats itself especially there, where it is forgotten. We pass it on, to avoid forgetting it and repeating its horrible moments. Some of us (for example, my colleague Romanski) are still in the possession of authentic notes written in the heat of the moment, in the camps, in pencil, already faded today. These historical artifacts should not be allowed to disappear; we have to take care of their conservation.

My narration pertains to my own experiences. As those who survived the concentration camps also know very well, in the same camp, and even during the same time period and commando—it was possible to have more luck or less, to encounter better or worse conditions and treatment, to survive or to perish. My reminiscences then cannot be related exactly to the fate of other prisoners. Almighty God helped me in these oppressions, and I survived.

I will begin with my youth, which has a connection with the main topic of my story. I come from the region of Sandomierz. Forty some kilometers to the south of Sandomierz, there is a small town called Polaniec, laid out on sandy soil. In the area, there were two or three mills, and at that time there was no factory or work establishment, besides the Ruszcza estate where one could get agricultural work. I remember, that in those difficult times after the First World War, the local small landowners ate bread only on such important feast days like Christmas and Easter, or during the harvest. For everyday meals, there was barszcz and potatoes for breakfast, lunch and supper. Not until somewhat later, around 1937, did construction begin there (for example, the embankments near the Wisla river), which gave people work and better conditions for living. Besides, these people worked very well and the results were very beautiful. Afterwards, industrial centers (COP—Centralny Okreg Przemyslowy) were also built, and the situation was systematically improved.

After finishing elementary school in Polaniec, in 1939 I received my high school diploma in Busko-Zdroj (in the beautiful newly constructed building) and went to the Szkola Glowna Handlowa in Warsaw (Warsaw School of Economics). My parents, who were small farmers, did not have the funds to pay for my tuition, clothes, and room and board. That's why, during the four years of high school, my brother and I earned money for our keep by tutoring for money. I would get up at around 5, no later than 6 in the morning, and I would go to bed after 11 in the evening. During the last two years I was a so-called "Marszalek" (the chairman of chairmen) of the high school. During my college studies in Warsaw, I was able to get a job as the assistant of the secretary in the Union of Agricultural and Economic Cooperatives (Zwiazek Spoldzielni Rolniczych i Zarobkowo-Gospodarczych), with the benefit of being able to do my work during the day or at night, during the workweek, as well as on Saturdays and Sundays.

Even before the beginning of my studies I belonged to the Polish Scouting movement, I participated in military preparation, I was interested in various political directions and social problems, trying to find answers to the question, how we should manage our country, in order to improve the welfare of the people. During my college studies. I had many colleagues with various persuasions.

There were many forms of the so-called "sanacja" of the former Pilsudski camp, such as Straz Przednia, Legion Mlodych, BBWR, OZON, various shades of the Stronnictwo Narodowe, Polska Partia Socjalistyczna, Stronnictwo Ludowe. There were some who communized (Jerzy Wuensche, Roman Ujma). There were also a few who usually played cards in the rest-rooms of the library, and some who were not interested in anything beyond their studies.

I studied two faculties simultaneously: co-operatives and business education; and of the required foreign languages, German and English. I joined the group of friends of the Stronnictwo Ludowe.

In discussions then we searched for the appropriate road to improve the conditions in the country. While still in high school, I read a copy of *Kapital* by Marx, translated into Polish, which I borrowed from the local Jewish library. By such searching around, I came to the conclusion that in Poland we must work out our own way, and I found—the cooperative movement. Working in the co-op movement, first as the secretary's assistant, and later as an auditor of the agricultural-cooperatives, I made contacts with many people of the Warsaw and Lodz provinces, which helped me very much during WWII in the underground resistance.

Immediately after my studies, I performed my military service in the School of Ensigns of the Cavalry (Szkoła Podchorążych Kawalerii) in Grudziadz, and after finishing there, I was assigned to the 21st Regiment of the Nadwislanski Lancers (21-szy Pulk Ulanow Nadwislanskich) in Rowne Wolynskie, in the Luck province.

During military service in the cavalry military college in Grudziadz, I taught evening courses after service hours about co-operatives for the non-career soldiers in Grudziadz. I organized courses in wheat-product ("zbozowo-towarowe": purchase, cleaning, milling, revision, storage, sale as well as basic bookkeeping). The point was that after returning to their homes from the army, they could join in the co-op work in their hometowns.

That's a broad view of what my prewar past looked like.

2. THE WAR OF 1939

During the war in 1939 I was with my regiment in the Lodz Army, in the Wolynska Cavalry Brigade, in the region around the locality of Mokra near Czestochowa. History appraises our battles there very positively.

During the retreat towards Warsaw, my platoon was in the rear guard that is in shielding formation. Before reaching Warsaw, I received the order to march on Garwolin and further on east for regrouping. But other detachments of my regiment, walking behind us, received an order to remain in the vicinity of Warsaw to defend the capital (I learned about this from the leadership of the regiment after the military actions of 1939 were over). Because Garwolin was already burning, my platoon and I joined in with various detachments of the Army of General Kleeberg—the grouping, of Lieutenant-Colonel Mossor (Czas Ulanow, Bohdan Krolkowski, page 217 and we took part in the successful cavalry charge of Cavalry Captain Burtowy (ibid, page 221) at the same time that Lieutenant-Colonel Mossor surrendered to the Germans with the rest of the grouping in the forest near Osuchowo.

The disbanding of our detachment did not take place until the area near Uchnowo or Rawa Ruska at night, when the Germans were attacking us from one side of the forest, and Soviet detachments were attacking from the other side. The order was: bury the weapons and ammunition, give the horses and uniforms to the peasants, change into ci-

vilian clothes, march home and await further orders.

Over half of the soldiers of my platoon came from Wolyn. The entire detachment was a well-harmonized group, fought bravely, heroically. The losses in human lives were large. My deputy, a Wolynian, Corporal Szkurski was killed in the first week of the war. I filled the losses in this way, by putting always-willing volunteers, stray infantrymen, on the horses left by those who were killed. I named as my deputy one of the leaders of the section, a senior lancer. He fulfilled his function very well.

After changing into civilian clothes, groups of people started to form in a loose march towards different directions: to their homes, to nearby relatives and acquaintances. I proposed a march through Hungary or Rumania to the Polish Army in France. Two colleagues joined in: one a second lieutenant of the reserve of a different detachment, who was originally from Warsaw, and one ensign of the career school of cavalry. As I recall, his name was Bratkowski or Bartkowski, having finished his second year. We agreed to go to Stanislawow, stay there with a colleague of Bratkowski's and look for a way to cross the border. After a few hours the Russians detained us, and added us to a group of demobilized soldiers headed for Lwów.

After various difficulties we were able to leave the barracks in Lwów and get to the colleague's house in Stanislawow. We were received hospitably, but with fear that the Soviets might find us, because then the whole family was in danger of arrest. After a few days of gathering news, we determined that the Rumanian border was surrounded by the army with dogs, and that crossing the border seemed to be impossible at that time. After about a week, we decided we couldn't place Bratkowski's friend's entire family in danger, we had to return to Warsaw. We reached the new Soviet-German border and there we fell into Germans hands. They packed us into autos and conveyed the entire transport to Radom, where we were unloaded onto an empty field fenced in with barbed wire. During the night, the two of us dug our way out under the barbed wire and fled in the direction of Warsaw.

Sometime towards the end of October 1939, we got to the locality of Pyry near Warsaw. The farmer let us sleep in the barn. The next day we were invited in for breakfast, and they told us about the destruction and lack of food in Warsaw. After breakfast my colleague and I parted company. He went in the direction of his home, and I towards my rented room on Narbutta Street. A friend of mine from studies in the Szkoła Główna Handlowa (Warsaw School of Economics), Hieronim Tatar and I rented one room, two other student acquaintances rented the second room, and the landlords took up the rest of the house.

However, it appeared that the landlords had already signed the volksliste, so that after a few days, my colleague Tatar and I moved in with a colleague from school—Andrzejewski, on Mokotowska Street. The two of us took up one room. The rest of the house was occupied by our colleague Andrzejewski, his mother and his elderly grandfather Jakubowski (the mother's father).

3. PROFESSIONAL WORK AND THE UNDERGROUND

Immediately the next day after returning to Warsaw, I went to my place of employment, the Związek Spółdzielni Rolniczych i Zarobkowo-Gospodarczych (the Union of Agricultural and Economic Cooperatives) in Warsaw, 11a Warecka Street. The Kasa Spółdzielcza (Cooperative Cashier) occupied the first floor, the second floor was taken up

by the Okreg w Warszawie (Warsaw District), the sections Rolniczo-Handlowe, Jajczarsko-Mleczarski (agricultural-commerce and ovoidairy), as well as the cashiers and Banki Spółdzielcze (Cooperative Banks). The third floor was occupied by the Zarząd Centrali (Central Administration), and the Instytut Spółdzielczy (Cooperative Institute) was on the fourth floor. Many workers "camped out" there with their families, because family members were slowly finding each other.

During the siege of Warsaw food supplies were exhausted, the prices on the black market were very high, and a large part of the populace was starving. Situations were especially difficult in hospitals, children shelters and so on. Many of my coworkers denied themselves part of what were rightfully their own rationed portions to jointly gather food supplies, for example for the hospitals. The director of the section of agricultural-commerce cooperatives was senior colleague Franciszek Kielan, a very honest individual, unusually generous and universally much respected. He convinced the German commissar on cooperative matters in Warsaw to transport food for the employees from the cooperative in Kutno (the largest cooperative in the Warsaw district).

Along with fellow friend Jan Boniuk, we set out for Kutno and brought to Warsaw, to our office, a food-filled ladder wagon harnessed to three horses. Part of the food was designated for hospitals, and the rest was divided according to the number of members in each family, regardless of the employee's position. A majority of the younger co-op employees began to carry food to the hospitals. In this way, I found in the hospital (probably the Ujazdowski Hospital) the leader of my regiment, the 21st Regiment of the Nadwislanski Lancers from the Wolynska Cavalry Brigade Lieutenant-Colonel Kazimierz Rostwosuski, as well as many officers from our regiment and brigade. I have to admit, that from that time on the food situation in the hospital improved very much.

After a certain time, we learned that the officers in the hospital were going to be transported somewhere, and that the Germans were already examining the lists of patients. I had the most acquaintances in the municipal offices in the former Sandomierski district. So I set out on a circuit and brought back as many as possible of clean unfilled personal identification documents (identity cards) and municipal seals. I brought all these back to Warsaw and handed them over to the reconnaissance liaison from Sluzba Zwyciestwu Polski (SWP—Service for the Victory of Poland). I already belonged at that time to the underground group "Raclawice." After a few days, the sick officers were released from the hospital and directed to an agreed upon residence location. The new identity cards turned out to be very good—they passed the test.

One day, the wife of Lieutenant-Colonel Rostwosuski contacted my office to let me know not to spend the night at home, because her husband was arrested during a street roundup (lapanka) and would be interrogated by the Gestapo that night. Luckily the next day, she advised me that he had already been released on the basis of a previously issued identity card (as I recall, it was issued to an "agricultural engineer" from an estate somewhere in Podole).

After the end of the September campaign, there began the underground phase of the battle. I was very much engaged in two groups. The first one was the group "Raclawice" belonging to the peoples' movement (most from the pre-war "Siew"). In connection with my work in the co-op movement, I was invited to prepare the statutes and to help with the organizational work of

the newly established restaurant in Warsaw, the "Wymiana," on 73 Mokotowska Street. This was only going to be a cover for the "Raclawice" group in its underground resistance work. After a few months there occurred a desecration (wpadka) of a cell of our group in Lublin (from where we received printing paper for the underground press). Using torture, the Germans forced information about our Warsaw group from the arrested members of that cell, but for now did nothing to us as yet.

One day a friend of mine, with the same first and last name besides (we called him Marian Wojciechowski number one, I was number two) came to me and asked if I could help them in the following matter. Apparently there was for sale an entire printing press hidden from the Germans by one of the printer compositors somewhere in a barn in the countryside. But for this printing press, the compositor wanted money—which needed to be organized. I didn't promise anything at first, because I didn't have the money, but I began some efforts in that direction. In Rawa Mazowiecka the director of the agricultural cooperative was my friend, Zygmunt Jedlinski. I went to him, explained the situation and asked for help. Over the time interval of several weeks, Zygmunt sent two ladder wagons loaded with food (all the automobiles were requisitioned by the Germans, and for the Poles they were unattainable). The printing press was purchased for the money received from the sale of this food on the black market. This was one of the first printing presses in service of the Polish underground in Warsaw.

The Germans depended very much on the agricultural cooperatives that supplied food for them on location, as well as for the residents of the Reich. Because of this, they wanted to have precise reports and inventories regarding existing cooperatives. The execution of such reports also constituted my work. Traveling around to the cooperatives as an inspector, I had special privileges in buying tickets for busses and trains, of course only in work-related matters. I made the most of these trips to contact other organizations. They were given information, and communiqués, meetings and terms were discussed, and so on.

Springtime 1941 was the date set for the meeting of the representatives of the organization "Raclawice." This meeting was to take place in the cooperative restaurant in Warsaw in the evening. I was going to that meeting from Nowe Miasto near Pilica, where I was staying with my brother after recent surgery on my appendix. At departure, my brother asked me to take along his wife, who was going to visit her family in Sandomierz and continue further on to Polaniec, and was going to have to change trains in Warsaw. I agreed readily and promised to help my sister-in-law to transfer from one train station to the other. Meanwhile, my sister-in-law suddenly got sick on the train, so that in Warsaw, instead of escorting her to the second train station, I took her to my place on the Aleje Niepodleglosci. I brought over a woman doctor acquaintance of mine, brought medicine from the pharmacy and gave it to my sister-in-law. She already felt significantly better. I announced to her that in the evening I was going to the meeting. My sister-in-law began to cry, she didn't know my landlords, they didn't know her, she was afraid to remain by herself without my care. She finally convinced me with this lamenting so much, that I resigned from attending the evening dinner meeting of the underground organization "Raclawice" in the co-op restaurant. I planned to find out about the details the next day by going there for breakfast.

At five in the morning I received a phone call from my colleague Wegierski (he was my

friend from the cooperative and the "konspiracja"), who asked me if I was coming for "breakfast." I answered yes, because I wasn't at the "supper" yesterday, so I should go for "breakfast." And my friend replied: "Better don't go there, because last night there was some poisoning with mushrooms." In our language, "mushroom poisoning" meant deconspiration or betrayal. It turned out that the Gestapo arrived before the hour designated for the meeting in the restaurant, and planted all the halls as well as the stairway with its people, both in uniforms and in civilian clothes. And afterwards, they would admit all incoming guests, but they were not let in. In this way, they arrested about 30 people. From this group of arrested individuals, two women (a cook and her daughter assisting her) survived; all the remaining people died from exhaustion at labor or were executed by shooting—the men in Auschwitz, the women in Ravensbruck. I would undoubtedly have shared their fate, if not for the fact that my sister-in-law's illness and strong pleas kept me at home.

But I survived luckily for some time afterwards, until the next year, 1942. Because I was informed that at the Gestapo they are inquiring about Marian Wojciechowski, and I didn't know which one, then I would change residences often (more or less every 4-6 months). The last residence I rented in Warsaw was in Zoliborz, in the housing co-op of musicians—the landlord of the residence, who also was a Wojciechowski (but Kazimierz) besides, was a musician.

I continued to travel around the General Government region. One day, shortly after the arrests at the restaurant, Kazik Wegierski came to me and announced to me, that he would like me to meet his sister who had just arrived from Lodz. I went to visit them, we talked some, and when the family went to bed, Kazik's sister told me that she has a task for me. She worked in reconnaissance and needed a place near the border of the General Government on the train line Lowicz-Zychlin-Kutno, where couriers crossing the border could stay the night for some rest and a place to sleep. After a few months, her brother advised her to ask me for help. I promised that I would look around. Under the German occupation Warsaw, Sochaczew and Lowicz still belonged to the General Government, however the next train station—Zychlin—was already on the side of the Reich, or territory incorporated into Germany. As quarters for the woman courier, Lowicz seemed the best fit to me, especially since I had very good relations there in the local agricultural-commerce co-op. That person was a woman courier of the Polish underground (Kazik's sister from Lodz, Wanda Wegierska). Because of the assignment of the liaison of the Polish underground, she took on German citizenship, traveled quite often across the border into German territory, met there with our intelligence personnel and brought back from them information, among other things including the localization of German armament plants. This information was transmitted from Warsaw to London via radio, to be utilized for bombing raids by the British air force. The woman courier (a young girl, about 18-19 years old) realized at one point in Berlin that she was being followed, and she fled to hide in the hotel. Sometimes even very sensible and brave people sometimes do tragically stupid things. She did just such a stupid thing. Back in the hotel, she wrote several letters, addressed the envelopes and mailed them. One of those letters was addressed to me. The Gestapo intercepted the letters and copied them along with the addresses. The woman courier was arrested in Berlin only after three or four months during her third trip. All the re-

cipients of her letters were also arrested. I had already organized for her a point of transfer, everything was prepared, but unfortunately it was too late.

Sometime during the second half of 1940 or maybe at the beginning of 1941, I believe it was Kazimierz Wegierski himself who came to my office room with his friend and asked me to help him as much as I would be able to, after which he left the room, leaving me alone with his friend. I asked what was it all about? It was about making contact with people through whom he would be able to acquire smaller or larger quantities of every kind of food. In my travels around the co-ops for inspection, before and even during the occupation—I knew the remaining stock products of the co-ops, and I tried to get to know people whom I could trust.

Verifying the percent of so called "tluczek" (breakage) of eggs, "rozsyyp" (spillage) of flour, cereal or grain, I knew roughly how much and of what it was possible to take away without putting people at risk of suspicion by the German authorities. If there were suspicions about the black market, that was only just half the problem. People were in danger of being thrown out of work, being sent to labor in Germany and so on. However, if there was suspicion that the food was being handed over to partisans or to Jews—there was the threat of punishment by death, preceded by torturing all suspects and their families. We had to help, but always we had to be cautious. My colleague Wegierski's friend came to me to the office several times, and if I had them—I always gave him some contacts in the cooperatives of the Warsaw or Radom districts. A contact could be the director of the cooperative, the director of a certain section, the warehouse keeper, the bookkeeper or also even an ordinary laborer who was initiated into the underground.

Only after the war, looking at a photograph in the press, I recognized that friend of my colleague Wegierski. It was Julian Grobelny, founder of the Council to Assist the Jews, "Zegota." During that time he was buying food and was more than likely providing it for Jews.

4. ARRESTED BY THE GESTAPO

I was arrested in Radom, where I had moved, because in Warsaw it was "too tight" for me, the Gestapo was tripping over my heels. In Radom, I resided at the local high school teacher's home (as I recall, his name was Oder). On April 23, 1942, at night, the Gestapo was battering at the door of the house where I lived. At that time I was not at home, and the landlord tried to open and escape through the back door, but they shot him in the leg. His son died from the wounds received during the shooting. The Gestapo inquired about me and found out that I was working in the cooperative. The next day, they went to the office of the Union of Agricultural and Economic Cooperatives, and without mentioning my name, made a general survey of the employees. They made accusations that the office produced fictional work cards for people who in reality don't work there. Under that pretext, they checked the entire registered personnel "from a to z," what and where a given individual did during a given day. By this method they got to me, and learned at which co-op I was performing an inspection at that point in time. It was in the Wloscianska Agricultural-Commerce Cooperative in Piotrkow Trybunalski. They returned to their headquarters and telephoned the order to arrest me by the local Gestapo. The Gestapo came to the commissar of the cooperative during the dinner hour asking about me. Meanwhile, not expecting anything, I had just had a secret meeting at the cemetery

and returned at noon to the co-op bureau. There I found a message that the commissar of the cooperative, a German, wanted to see me in his office. This was nothing unusual, so I calmly went to his bureau, and the Gestapo were already there waiting for me. They checked my personal documents and informed me that I was under arrest. The protestations of the German commissar, who needed my help in the work of the cooperative, did not help. I was arrested; the Radom Gestapo demanded my immediate transport to Radom. At the moment of the arrest, I had on my person several "trefne" (secret under ground) documents, that is, such that should not, under any circumstances, fall into German hands. Handing over my briefcase to a colleague who was my assistant-apprentice, I told him quietly to burn whatever could be damaging to us. Unfortunately, I also had some papers on me in my clothes; I could not get rid of these without attracting the attention of the Gestapo. We arrived in Radom (that was April 24, 1942) around 11 pm at night. And here, fate was kind to me in a most miraculous way.

Now, about a month earlier I was taking the train from Radom to Warsaw. At the train station, using my cooperative inspector's identification card, I could buy a train ticket without having to wait in line (this was no small matter: there were barely 20 tickets available for about 200 people in the queue). At that time, there walked up to me a stranger in the uniform of a prison guard, asking me to help him to buy a ticket: he had received a telegram that his sister in Warsaw is dying and he desperately wanted to visit her (he was going to be busy at work the next day). I like people and I like to help them. Therefore, I agreed, and I bought him a ticket in the next ticket cashier's window to avoid suspicion. And it so happened, that we were passengers in the same train car and chatted with each other a bit.

When, in accordance with their received orders the Gestapo brought me to the Radom prison that night, it was this "acquaintance" from the train station who was the guard on duty!

On the first floor of the prison building there was the criminal section (for prisoners accused of theft, etc.) and on the upper floor, I believe either on the second or third story, there was the political section. After bringing me in, the Gestapo led me to the guard on duty and told him to sign a document that I had been delivered. When he signed the receipt for my person, they left, leaving me in his responsibility. We were left alone, and we began a discussion as to what to do next. My eventual escape would risk reparations against our entire families (his and mine), as well as against my colleagues from work and from home. I felt that it was too dangerous not only for my loved ones, but also for the family of the prison guard. I decided that I do not have the right to put so many people in danger, and I decided not to escape. The guard advised me to destroy anything that was "trefne" (secret underground documents) that I had with me. In the middle of a large hall on the first floor in which we found ourselves, there stood a huge stove (so called "koza") with a fire burning inside. The guard lifted the cover of the stove and said: "Throw it in here." I had with me a notebook with coded names, telephone numbers and addresses. Without knowing the code, it would have been difficult to decode them. However, the Gestapo could come to the conclusion that the information in the notebook is coded, and with additional beatings maybe get that necessary information out of me. Without a moment's hesitation, I took advantage of the "koza" and threw in my notebook along with the rest of the "trefne" papers into the fire.

5. INTERROGATION AND TORTURE IN RADOM

And so I fell into the hands of the Gestapo, but with the exception of what they already knew about me, I did not provide them with any other indications. Everything I possessed was "clean," because anything else had been burned.

During the first few days of my stay at the prison, I received a package with a large pot of buckwheat cereal. The Gestapo checked this cereal rather thoroughly, but fortunately, they did not find the tiny rolled up ball of paper hidden inside it. It contained only the brief piece of information, that the Wegierskis had been arrested with their entire family. I did not receive any additional information: why, who and how. Kazik Wegierski, a scout instructor (I believe from the scout troop "Wigry") was that colleague from work and the underground, who had informed me earlier in Warsaw about the "mushroom poisoning," or "wpadka" (deconspiracy of a cell of my underground organization). He was very actively engaged in the Polish underground, and his sister was that courier who traveled to Germany for reconnaissance.

I wasn't sure what the Gestapo already knew or what it didn't know, but just in case, I didn't admit to anything. For the first interrogation, there arrived at the prison a special envoy from German intelligence, who spoke Polish perfectly. As it turned out, he knew Poland, and about two weeks earlier, that is, right before the outbreak of war, he had returned to Germany from a ski trip to Zakopane. He wanted me to tell him everything that I knew about people acquainted with me, where they work, what they do. Naturally, when it came to Wegierski, I pretended not to know anything. At that point, there was not yet any beating or anything of that sort. The person leading the interrogation said, that's too bad, that I don't know anything, and left the prison. About two weeks later at the next interrogation I was beaten so thoroughly, that after finishing they threw me into the cell completely disabled.

Normal interrogation took place in this way, that in the attic of the Gestapo headquarters, they would put handcuff the prisoner's hands in back of him, tie the handcuffs to a rope hanging from the ceiling, and pull the rope upwards so that one would hang above the floor of the attic at the height of an average chair or table. Then, there would take place a beating over the entire body, including the head and legs. A person would be completely covered in blood. Because I was hanging by my hands with the entire weight of my body, and sometimes pulled downwards by my legs, I lost complete use of my fingers and hands already after the second interrogation. It was possible to prick me in the fingers, and I would not be able to feel it. I could not bend my arms at the elbows, so that when eating, for example, a piece of bread, I had to use a spoon, because I could not reach my mouth with my hand. They maltreated me horribly. Luckily, my prison guard acquaintance alerted the persons indicated by me about my imprisonment. These individuals tried to help me through the commissar of the co-op union where I worked, and also through his secretary. As I learned later in the Gross Rosen camp, where I met the son-in-law of my Radom landlords, it was that German woman secretary who suggested that one of the stapo (he had a high position and loved to play around) be bribed. Of course, there could in no way be any agreement about my release from prison, but it was about sending me to Auschwitz without a death sentence. Normally in similar incidences the prisoner, after the interrogations were concluded, was executed

by shooting in the prison or in nearby forests, or sent to Auschwitz with a death sentence. This sentence was executed by shooting in the camp after a two- or several-month stay. Such a sentence was not sent after me. I was transported to Auschwitz, but all my things were returned to my mother with the announcement of my death. They didn't want to release the body, but they sent a message that I am no longer on this earth.

6. AUSCHWITZ

In the camp I met with a series of events that appeared to be miraculous, or perhaps accidental coincidences ordained by the Providence of God. It is difficult for me to say that God wanted to retain my person, because there were so many who were so much better and so much more needed. But it all happened so that I was saved.

I arrived at Auschwitz as a complete human ruin: I could not bend or move my hands. At the camp apels, when the orders "caps off" or "caps on" were issued, I grabbed the cap on my head without feeling it in my fingers. Not obeying the command risked being beaten or even being killed on the spot.

They took me to Block 11, the block of death. Had they learned about my state and that I was unable to work, a death sentence would have been immediate. I was unfit for work, so there was no reason why I should be kept alive. In such a state, I was held in the death block for a day or two. I was hit over the head with a club several times, but after about a week they sent me, in a group of about 20 prisoners, to the kitchen for food, for the afternoon soup. This soup—a bit of water with some thing like nettle in it—and yet hot, was carried on poles in barrels of various dimensions (25, 50 liters) by two prisoners. They sent a few too many people to carry the soup, under the assumption that there would be more barrels. But as it turned out, the barrels were larger and a few of us didn't have to carry anything. I tried to walk in the back, so that they would not choose me when changing carriers, because I knew that I would be unable to carry the barrel. And spilling the soup, especially a barrel of soup—that would have been death on the spot for certain, for the reckless denial of food for many people. And after all, I could not tell them that I had no feeling in my hands. So I walked in the back of the group of these carriers down a street leading to Block 11, and suddenly I saw a man in front of me, coming closer, also wearing prison garb, but shaped and well-fitting. We got closer to each other and both of us stood: "Marian, is that you?" and I answered, "Zdzisiek, is that you?" It turned out that this was my friend, with whom I shared a room in 1937–1938 at the cavalry training center in Grudziadz for a period of about 9 months. At that time, after military service, I returned to work in the co-op movement, and he remained in the army as a candidate or a career officer. During the occupation, he was rounded up along with all the remaining men on a train on the Krakow-Tarnow line and sent to Auschwitz. Because the man was strong and healthy, he survived the first few months in the camp not all that badly, and then people like that, if they were able to do something, were assigned various positions in maintaining the camp. My friend Zdzisiek Wroblewski was appointed as the block scribe: he had the responsibility of keeping the prisoners' register up to date, where and what each one was doing at each hour. We briefly recounted to each other our histories; he decided to accompany me. He went with me to block monitor—it was a German criminal, who beat and killed people without hesitation; he told him not to do me any harm, because I was his friend.

In about a week, Zdzisiek arranged to have me transferred to his block. I don't know how he did that, but at the new place there were many former colleagues and acquaintances from various political parties and factions, from various universities and various cities. They already had formed an entire underground organization Auschwitz, and everyone helped each other as much as was possible. Zdzisiek drew me to him and said that he would make me a "sztubowy." The "sztubowy" was responsible for one large camp ward. I told him that I was not suitable for that function; I saw that a "sztubowy" beats people, hitting them with a ladle wherever it fell. I was not suited for this. Zdzisiek replied, "Listen, this is the way it is here, that either you will beat, or you will be beaten." But I refused; I wanted to be in the middle, to not beat and not to be beaten. So I bounced here and there, working in different commandos in the camp territory.

A typhus epidemic broke out. Two blocks were reserved for the sick. The Germans were not at all that concerned about the prisoners, who were dying in masses from the typhus, but they were afraid of getting infected themselves. Because the prisoner worked in many sections, for example, in the canteens where they had contact with SS-men, they could infect them. One day, two large trucks arrived, onto which were loaded all the people in those two "typhus" blocks: the sick, the reconvalescing and the orderlies. They were all gassed. Less than a week later, I fell ill with typhus myself. My companions in adversity took me arm in arm and led me to the receiving hall for the sick, and then they themselves had to quickly report to work. The doctor in reception, a young Jew fresh after medical studies (probably from Hungary) had already been alerted about my coming by my colleagues or their acquaintances. At that very moment an SS-man appeared. He was an older man, who went about the camp and observed the prisoners, writing down the numbers of those who were working poorly—as well those who were so weak that they could not work. These numbers were then passed on to the camp registry office. All those recorded prisoners were then immediately murdered in the gas chambers or (more frequently) by injection with phenol. At the moment of the SS-man's arrival, I had already been examined by the doctor, with a filled out health card. The SS-man came up and took my card, and noticed the high fever. Seeing this, and knowing that in a moment my number would be recorded and passed on for execution, the doctor quickly reported: "High fever, for observation." In the Auschwitz camp, on Block 10, there were performed various types of observations and medical experiments. German doctors inoculated male and female prisoners with bacteria of various diseases, performed research and observations, and then of course they killed the subjects. In connection with this, the visiting, SS-man understood that I would be sent there for observation; he put away his notebook and did not record my number. At that time, I was already semiconscious.

Next, they sent me to a newly opened "revier" for those who were sick with typhus. I was visited there by my friend and one of the leaders of the conspiracy—Kazimierz Wegierski, who was arrested even earlier than I. During his interrogation, the Gestapo beat him so severely that his kidneys, liver and other internal organs were damaged. As a result, this very slender man was so badly swollen that I could not recognize him. He died the next day, without betraying anyone to the very end.

From the entire group that was arrested along with him, not one person broke under cruel interrogation, no one was betrayed. His

sister, Wanda Wegierska, caught by the Germans and accused of spying, was sentenced to death and executed by beheading in the prison in Berlin. Working for the Polish intelligence, she presented herself as a German citizen and that type of death was administered to her. For her achievements in the underground resistance movement, she received the *Virtuti Militari* Cross posthumously after the war, and was also promoted to the rank of second lieutenant. She was the woman courier about whom I spoke earlier at the beginning of my lecture.

After getting well, I was sent back to the block of my friend Zdzisiek, who started to look for work for me. He found for me the position of bookkeeper for a German civilian—an engineer, assigned to supervise the storage of building and construction materials intended for the camp, as well as for military objectives. At the Auschwitz camp there was a main warehouse of that type. At the beginning, we observed each other: on the third day of such an acquaintance, the engineer placed a piece of bread with marmalade on my table, and later we began to talk with each other. Of course, I did not admit to my underground connections. Our conversations were held cautiously and only inside the building. The German warned me that if our contacts were revealed, then he would become a prisoner like myself, and I would end up in the crematorium. We worked together, we exchanged words of greeting, the relationship between us was arranged on a level plane of not so much as work colleague or friend, but human being nonetheless.

After about two weeks, my work was changed: at the Sunday morning *apel*, I was assigned along with about a hundred other prisoners to clean the overgrown drainage ditches outside the camp. Standing on the bottom of the ditch with water up to the knees, one had to deepen the trench and hand the soil up to people located higher. The work assigned to me was at the bottom of the ditch, and any kind of protest would of course risk a beating. At that time I already had enough feeling in my hands so that I could hold a shovel, but my fingers were still not fully functional (moreover, that condition has persisted till this day). I worked this way for a full day; it was already the middle of November, the water was very cold. After returning to the camp I was shaking with the cold, but the next day I went to do the same work, not saying anything to the German engineer with whom I had worked previously. After the second day of working in the ditches. I got a very high fever during the night, and they took me for a medical examination. It was pure luck that there were Polish doctors there, who, even though they had no medicines, were able to do advice what to do. They diagnosed pneumonia, pleurisy, water in the side as well as inflammation of the kidneys. They had no medicinal supplies, because people were held in the camp to be finished off, completely without any care as to their medical treatment. And once again, I met with Divine Providence. In this so-called hospital to which I was taken, there worked a prisoner—called the block tailor, who had been arrested along with one of my friends. This friend, like me, was a recipient of one of the letters from our woman courier, which had been intercepted by the Gestapo. The Gestapo came for him at his place of work—a tailor shop on Wiejska Street right nearby the Sejm. He was arrested along with other workers. A handy tailor from just that group by the name of Wladek Dabrowski was presently in Auschwitz. He performed a series of tailoring tasks for the camp "dignitaries"—the functionaries and the SS-men. Wladek and I recognized each other and he helped me

in the treatment. Once again, God showed His mercy. How was I treated? They cut off a small barrel and installed heating elements in the form of several light bulbs. They would place me on blankets on the ground, they would place the so "armed" barrel on my chest, and they would connect the electrical wire conduit to the electrical contact. After a half hour of such heating, I was almost unconscious, but the blanket on which I was laying was completely wet from the water coming out from within my body. Besides this, the water from my side was extracted with the help of a syringe. When the SS-man who was writing down the numbers of the prisoners for execution, because they were very sick and not fit for work, would draw near us, a well-organized camp intelligence would warn us ahead of time. Then I would be pulled out of bed, wrapped in a blanket and placed on the ground by a wall. That was done with prisoners who had already died, because at the morning, afternoon and evening *apels* every man in every block had to be accounted for. After the SS-man left, my friend the tailor, along with his friends, put me back into bed. This would be repeated during my entire stay at the hospital.

Meanwhile on the block to which I belonged, Zdzisiek had a fatal fallout. He organized contacts from outside the camp for the purpose of bringing in medicines for so many sick prisoners. This was realized in the following way: Some of the specialists (for example, welders, plumbers, and so on) needed in the camp were imported as civilian workers from outside the camp. Zdzisiek would pass on a list of needed medicines to them, which they would bring to the camp at the next opportunity. One of those workers was caught with such a list during inspection, and under torture revealed who had given it to him. Zdzisiek was arrested immediately along with the two "sztubowy" who were responsible for the wards, which Zdzisiek frequented most. Despite the tortures, all three did not betray anyone and did not admit to anything; they all perished either from starvation, or by phenol injection. Had it not been for my stay in the hospital, because I was so closely connected to them, I would have probably been also taken, tortured and bestially murdered.

I stayed in the hospital until the moment that my fever dropped, then I had to go back to work. I was released from the hospital one Sunday and assigned to a different block. This was the block of the so-called "Zugange" (prisoners newly-arrived to the camp as well as prisoners discharged from the hospital). The ward of the block I was assigned to was located on the first floor; I was so exhausted by the illness that I would walk up the wide stairs on all fours. I had a card of discharge from the hospital and was assigned to work the next day. This time the work consisted of arranging in layers boards, still wet, freshly brought in from the mill, in tall stacks with some air draft to dry the boards. To accomplish this, some of the workers had to climb upwards and pull up heavy boards handed up from below. I barely managed to drag myself to the place of work; I was assigned the work at the top, but I lacked the strength to climb up the stack. Even if I had been able to do so, with the frosty weather (and it was about the middle of January) I would undoubtedly have frozen to death or, unable to climb down, would have been pushed off to the ground, breaking my bones. I thought to myself then, there is no point in climbing up, better let them kill me here on the ground and it will be the end of it. I decided not to go to the top of the stack—this was a refusal to work, which in the camp meant inevitable death.

At that time there was in Auschwitz an obercapo of the Bauhoff (building section), a

German criminal prisoner known as "Bloody August," who was renowned for his cruelty. Tall, thin, with long hands like an ape. It was enough for him to smack a prisoner with such a hand, to make a corpse out of him. I suddenly saw that "Bloody August" from a distance of about 10 meters. I thought that this is the end of me; but he suddenly became interested in someone else, jumped to the side and reached him, getting further away from me. However, the other person accompanying him came up to me. Normally, a prisoner of the concentration camp when approached by anyone from the camp administration, was obligated to take off his cap and stand at attention. I did not do this; it was a matter of complete indifference to me whether they would kill me or not. The person approaching me noticed that, came up closer, looked at me and said in German: "Marian, is that you?" I recognized that it was the German engineer, for whom I had worked as a bookkeeper. He asked what I was doing here, why I didn't come to him to work. I answered, that they assigned me to different work, that I had been in the hospital and then they told me to report to the present work site. I added, that I could not perform the work, because I did not have the strength to do it, therefore because of that they will kill me. The engineer looked at me and told me to come with him. He took me to a huge storage place for pipes and other plumbing parts. Outside the building there were all kinds of concrete pipes, and inside there were copper and nickel pipes, as well as all sorts of joints for pipes. The director of this whole warehouse was a prisoner from Stalowa Wola, engineer Sledziewski or maybe Sledzinski. The German led me to him and said that he is leaving me with him as his responsibility, turned around and left. Sledziewski knew nothing about me, but he saw that I was barely able to stand on my feet. He told me to sit down, brought me a piece of bread, pointed to the hot water for bread soup. And I sat like that next to him, by the hot stove, not doing anything for about two or three days.

Under camp conditions this was something completely unheard of and meant inevitable death. Soon we began to talk with each other; I told him everything about myself honestly. When I had rested some, I started to help him more and more. I worked in this way to approximately the middle of March, 1943, when the transfer of prisoners from Auschwitz to other camps was begun, because the Auschwitz camp was already overloaded.

7. GROSS ROSEN—ROGOZNIKA

I was sent to the camp in Gross Rosen. The stay in Gross Rosen began as usual with a quarantine. Even before it was over, I was sent to Hirshberg (today, Jelenia Góra) to work on the construction of a factory to make products from wood fibers. The task of the workers was construction of timbering for cement walls. I volunteered as a carpenter, trying to avoid work with sand or cement, where one had to work full speed running with wheelbarrows filled with sand or cement; with this, one received a lot of lashes. The work of a carpenter, requiring precision in matching timber or boards, was slower. Later, I was even appointed the secretary of the entire group, because it turned out that the former candidate for the position was unable to write well, and quickly. So I held the position of carpenter and secretary until about November, when they brought us from Hirschberg back to the mother camp of Gross Rosen. There I was again employed as a carpenter in the construction of new barracks. One had to work very fast, because everyday there arrived new transports of thousands of prisoners

pulled from many other camps (from Majdanek and others). In the construction of the barracks there were used ready-made slabs which had to be put together, next the windows were mounted, and also finishing work was performed. Part of the work was done in the interiors, where it was hot, and for other types of work one had to run, and fast at that, outside. Under these conditions I caught a very severe cold, I was close to pneumonia, I had trouble with breathing and speaking. My colleagues decided to help me, taking me to the "revier" where I could rest. I stayed there, and already on the second day there came to my bed the "revier" kapo by the name of Siehsumich and started a conversation with me. I told him a bit of this and about myself, of course hiding my activity in the underground; he asked me from here do I know German so well, and learning about my education he proposed a more responsible job. He suggested a project employing me in the camp post office, the parcel section. This change suited me very much and I began the new work of receiving and delivering parcels.

Some time later there came to Gross Rosen a transport of prisoners from Majdanek. Right after that, a few weeks later, this was followed by a large shipment from Majdanek of food parcels which had been sent to these prisoners by their families. The director of the post office, SS Unterscharführer Layer, decided to send the packages back to the families, because some of the addresses were no longer current. The parcels were delivered to the prisoners in accordance with their prisoner number as well as the number of the block in which they slept and ate. The first and last names of the prisoners were not important, it was only those numbers that mattered. However, after arrival in Gross Rosen from Majdanek, prisoners were located in a new block and received a new prisoner number, so that finding the original addressees among so many thousands of prisoners was unusually complicated. Therefore, the director of the post office decided to send back the entire transport of parcels to the senders. I knew that with the hunger prevailing in the camp, the return of the food packages constituted a huge loss: in addition, the families of the prisoners receiving the returns will be convinced that the addressees were dead. This type of explanation would not be effective with the director of the post office, who was an SS-man. Certainly he was not concerned with the hunger of the prisoners and the pain of the families. I decided then, to propose other arguments to him. I told him that returning the packages places an additional burden on the communication centers, whose main purpose should be services for the German populace and armed forces. I cited the slogan placed on German trains: "Die Räder rollen für den Sieg" ("The wheels are rolling for victory.") With this I convinced the German, who asked me for advice what to do, because it would be difficult to just distribute the packages at random. I offered to help: if I received permission from the commandant of the camp and his deputy (Raportführer Eschner) to spend additional hours during the week working in the camp chancellery after normal work hours, then I would attempt to find the addressees of the parcels, by comparing their former registered numbers with the currently assigned numbers, as well as searching for the block in which they were presently residing.

In the camp registry office, there were card index tiles of the mother camp Gross Rosen and all the subcamps of this region, all living and dead prisoners with their new numbers, occupation, and cause of death in case the prisoners were no longer alive. After receiving the consent of the camp authorities, I

spent the next week working additionally until about 11 or 12 at night, in search of the owners of the parcels. The beginning was the hardest, that is, finding the first few. Next, those who were found helped me to find the next addressees. And in this way during the week we unloaded the entire shipment of parcels, additionally earning the confidence of the director of the post office, SS-man Layer, and of Rapportführer Eschner with this work well done.

Shortly thereafter, this SS-man's goodwill, earned in this way, became very useful to me. For one of the prisoners, it pains me to say—a Pole (he currently resides in Warsaw), supplemented his food rations by stealing the best foodstuffs from some of the packages, for example, pieces of sausage. Noticing this process, of course I did not denounce him, but I sharply called his attention to it to have him stop doing this. I even threatened him, that the next time this offense occurred, he would receive from me a healthy lesson. The angry prisoner, along with another Polish "volksdeutsch," wrote a denunciation about me, that I was taking advantage of my work at the post office to send letters outside the camp, even though I was under the so-called "Postsperre" (forbidden to write letters, and to receive letters and packages). I knew nothing about this denunciation. One day, when I arrived at work, the SS-man, director of the post office Unterscharführer, called me to his office and told me from whom and what kind of denunciation was deposited about me. The main chief of the political section of the camp, representing the highest authority of the Gestapo in the camp, came to him to verify this and to eventually take me in for interrogation. "My" SS-man supervisor guaranteed that it was not true, that I am a very good worker, and that the denunciation was probably caused by jealousy. In the conversation with me he added, that he was not asking me if the accusation is true, but warned me not to do anything like that, and also not to mention our conversation to anyone. This SS-man saved my life then, because the denunciation about me was true. Of course, having correspondence forbidden to me (camp authorities ordered such types of prohibition concerning certain dangerous prisoners). I would occasionally send letters, availing myself of the kindness of my colleagues, who were able to write once or twice a month to their loved ones. From time to time (for example, once a year) they would give up one of their own letters so I could send one of my own, signed with their name and number (and to these same numbers there could also come a reply to me from my family, which they then transmitted to me later).

Luckily, the matter of the denunciation ended on this note without any consequences. Additionally in my favor there was also the following fact from the recent work time spent building the warehouse in Hirschberg. Due to intervention from the International Red Cross to the highest German authorities in Berlin, it was demanded that all prisoners receive the order one Sunday to write a letter home. I reflected on what I should do. Since I had the "Postsperre" (under penalty of death, it was forbidden to send out or receive any kind of correspondence or parcel, which effectively made the prisoner "dead" to the outside world), I delayed with writing the letter, in fear of the consequences. So I went to the commandant of the subcamp Hirschberg and asked what I should do. After coming to an agreement with the main camp, he said that the prohibition is binding and that I am not allowed to write. This proof of subordination was registered in my records, and also helped me to survive in face of the denunciation.

A group of prisoners from Majdanek, who received food parcels thanks to my work, was most grateful to me. Hunger ruled in the camp; food parcels were unbelievably valuable. They invited me most warmly for a tasty treat, but I declined—not accepting even a piece from anyone. At that time, I worked inside the building and not that hard, so it wasn't very bad for me; if they wanted to, then they could share the food products with their friends and colleagues. Helping my colleagues I saw as my duty, without accepting even the smallest payment, not even in the form of food.

8. LEITMERITZ

In January 1945, the German-Russian battles already moved to the west of Wrocław. The prisoners were transported by train and on foot to the west. As I recall, on the 4th or 5th of February 1945 there occurred the final liquidation of the concentration camp Gross Rosen. They loaded us on various uncovered train cars (for example, coal cars). They packed as many of us as possible into each train car, putting in one or two SS-men with machine guns. All prisoners were told to kneel or to sit, and who ever raised himself or stood up was immediately shot. The train drew near several locations where there were concentration camps, but they were already overfilled. On some stops, the bodies of dead prisoners were removed from the wagons. Finally we reached Flossenbürg, and from there the subcamp Leitmeritz. It was a camp of murderous labor in digging tunnels into the rock walls, into which were then placed machines to produce armaments and ammunition. The mountains protected the production against bombing explosions. Those prisoners who were still alive in the last few train cars, where I also found myself, received orders to take the corpses out of the wagons outside, and lay them out on the embankments along the railroad tracks. This caused a considerable delay in entering the camp itself. Walking in through the gate, I heard someone calling my name. It turned out that they were the former prisoners of the Majdanek camp, and later Gross Rosen, whose parcels from their families I had rescued in Gross Rosen, with that additional night work in the camp registry office.

After the quarantine, the entire transport of prisoners was sent to set up camp Leitmeritz, and many of them now occupied good positions (for example, as functionaries of the camp's firefighting service). Out of gratitude, they fed me and my colleagues, assigned me a bed to sleep on (many of the prisoners slept two or three on one bed or on the ground) and arranged work for me outside the main camp, under good conditions, at the construction of a house for the camp commandant. Because the German criminal prisoners, and especially those so-called "kapo," had already been dismissed by then from the camps, and after a short training were sent to the eastern front, they made me the "kayo" of that group. I chose the following individuals for the group:

(1) Kazimierz Wisniewski, former student of the Szkoła Główna Handlowa in Warsaw (Warsaw School of Economics), still sick after typhus.

(2) Jerzy Cesarski, pre-war activist of the PPS (Polska Partia Socjalistyczna) and an active member of the underground.

(3) A German (whose name I do not remember) "kapo" of the electricians in the commando "Steinbruch," the exploitation of the quarries in camp Gross Rosen. He was known for secretly constructing a radio receiver together with a few Poles and Germans; they jointly listened to the radio broadcasts from London and also news about the situation of battles on the fronts, and passed them on by word of mouth to their colleagues in the

camp, by which they really raised their hopes for surviving. And that was a great deal. Caught red-handed listening to this radio, despite terrible beatings and other tortures, he did not betray anyone, taking the entire responsibility on himself. The liquidation of camp Gross Rosen probably saved him from death.

One evening, a group of Polish colleagues at work digging the tunnel, reported to me—explaining, that the German supervisor working there, who murdered people at work, had already promised one Pole that he would finish him off the next day. This Pole, already sentenced for extermination, was engineer Dr. Henryk Stankiewicz, docent lecturer of the Warsaw Polytechnical School (as I recall, before the war he specialized in research on the endurance of building materials). Because I could not take more than three people to work, I had to release someone in order to take in Stankiewicz. I decided to dismiss Jerzy Cesarski, who scolded me terribly, that I was sacrificing a political activist in favor of some kind of engineer. Fortunately, both survived and both returned to Poland. On a marginal note on this matter, I will only add that as I recall, the 68-year old SS-man who watched us, of Czech origin, and who knew the Czech, German, Russian and even the Polish language rather well, stated to us at the very beginning, that in his presence we can say whatever we like about Hitler and the Germans, but if his wife or his daughters arrived, we were not allowed to say anything, because they were real Germans and would immediately report this fact to the Gestapo.

To build the house for the commandant of the camp (it was already under roofing) we had absolutely no materials and no desire. We spent our whole time looking for wood remnants nearby, which we exchanged with the local residents for a beet, a turnip, a few potatoes, or a piece of bread. From these products we would make a soup, which we shared honestly with our guard. This commando was kept for me for a long time, so that I think that it was due to the gratitude shown me for that time in Gross Rosen. I have great respect and gratitude for my colleagues.

9. ESCAPE FROM THE TRANSPORT ON FOOT

In the months of March and April 1945, the Russian armies were pressing to the west. One could hear in the distance somewhere the bombs bursting and the cannonade of the artillery. All work outside the barbed wire of the camp was halted, and also within our commando. Whole columns of prisoners were prepared to march out one after the other somewhere to the west. On May 5, 1945, my colleagues Wisniewski and Stankiewicz, and I were included in such a column marching on foot. In the camp it was already a public secret that the prisoners in the transports on foot, who no longer had the strength to continue further, were finished off with a rifle shot and left by the roadside to be buried by the local residents. Long marches, often without food and water, left numerous victims. Therefore, at the first occasion during the night, walking through a dense forest, at a given password all three of us jumped into the roadside thicket. We waited until the entire column passed us and then we hid ourselves in even thicker shrubs and waited for sunrise. In the morning, we turned into the first forest path crossing, which led us to a Czech village, where we were greeted very, very hospitably. Bathed, fed and dressed in clean undergarments, and in clean albeit old clothes, we finally felt like human beings. The Czechs informed us that the Russian armies were already in Prague (or in the vicinity of Prague), and the American armies were in the area of Pilsno.

While still in the concentration camps, we all knew about the fate of the Polish officers at Katyn. The German press made this known, and it was confirmed by the Polish underground press, with the exception of procommunist gazettes. We already knew about the mass arrests of Poles on territories taken over by Russia and of their transports under terrible conditions to Siberia. We already knew what would be waiting for us there, if we believed in the communist prattle and headed east. That's why we had already planned earlier to head west. The roads were already obstructed with German deserters and other nationalities in all directions. Almost everywhere there were organized kitchens for the fugitives. Without greater obstacles, we made it to the vicinity of Pilsno. There, on the main road to Germany, we were stopped by an American patrol. Only those who had documents proving that they resided in the west were allowed to go on. Residents of Central and Eastern Europe were to return to their homes. The three of us went off to the side to consult on what to do. A young Czech boy was listening in on our conversation. Apparently he understood our situation, because he informed us that he could show us where to cross the border. He returned with us part of the way towards the village, then turned off to the side through the field boundary strips, in the direction of some small shrubs and thickets, and said that beyond those shrubs we would reach a grove, and beyond that would be Germany. That's how we made it to the German locality in the area of Schwandorf, and then further on to the town of Amberg, where a Polish DP (Displaced Persons) camp was being formed. There the commandant of the camp, a prisoner of concentration camps, a major in the AK (Armia Krajowa—Polish Home Army), Wojcik (Jozef was his first name, I think) greeted us, and in a pleasant, friendly new-camp atmosphere we slowly regained our old selves mentally and physically, after the tragic experiences of the preceding years. The nightmare of German concentration camps still remained in our subconsciousness for decades and even now after more than fifty years of freedom, sometimes I wake up from a terrible dream and I see the silent pleading eyes of my friends standing in front of the camp administration office in Gross Rosen, under the guard of SS-men, I hear the shots into the back of their skulls; and I sense and I see in the dream the black cloud of smoke weaving lazily out of the crematorium. Those who survived this hell did not speak of it for a long time. But it is necessary to talk about it, so that the memory will not be obliterated, so that the history of the Polish Holocaust will not be further falsified.

10. THE POLISH CIVILIAN GUARD

In August and September 1945, the news spread around in Amberg that:

(1) the Polish DP camp in Amberg would be transferred to a larger camp in Wildflecken, (2) the Americans were organizing the Polish Civilian Guard and Transitional Training Camps.

The commandant of our camp, Major Jozef Wojcik, became the commandant of one of such camps (Wincer) and asked me to help in enrolling participants. I traveled around the DP camps, made speeches and kept sending to Wincer even more candidates for the Civilian Guard. Finally late in the autumn of 1945, I also went through a period of training as a second lieutenant, and at the beginning of 1946, our Civilian Guard company was sent into service at Bad Aibling (near Rosenheim by Munich). As I recall, there were three of our companies all-together. We performed our duty by guarding German POWs; mechanical vehicles and their spare parts; and

stores of weapons, ammunition, etc. In the summer of 1946, they transferred our company for repeat short training do Mannheim Kafertal. There I found many young officers and soldiers whom I knew from my college years, my military service and during my professional work. I became friends with the deputy of the leader of the Civilian Guard of the American Army, Lieutenant-Colonel Wladyslaw Rylko, and he, knowing that I am a member of the cooperative movement, asked me for help in organizing co-ops in the Civilian Guard companies. I began work on preparing the statutes as well as the accounting forms and cash settlements. However, since part of the company to which I was assigned was transferred to Buttelborn near Gross Gerau in the vicinity of Darmstadt, in order to guard the warehouses of automobile parts and automotive service columns, I went along with them. After a few days in Buttelborn, I became aware of two things:

(1) the members of the companies and their families were still somewhat hungry;

(2) the American army would employ the Civilian Guard only for as long as they needed us. In case of dismissal, our soldiers will go looking for work in Germany or through emigration, without possessing any practical professional skills.

I resolved to do something to remedy both these cases. Regarding the suffering due to hunger, I again started up the company cooperative, making the bookkeeping, the accounting, and the periodical rights of control by members (the auditing committee) more efficient. Regarding the guardsmen's lack of professional skills, I held a meeting of the soldiers and asked them, who would like to learn which profession. Next, I applied to the local village resident Germans individually, owners of trade workshops, with a request to accept our candidates for training in the profession. In this way I was able to accommodate all who wanted to learn. Next, I sat down with my friend, the leader of the company. Captain Roman Weislo-Winnicki, to work out the scheduling of guard service for afternoon or evening hours, so that those who wanted to learn could go to work during the day in the trade workshops and learn the trade skills. With the help of the educational officer of our center, Captain Jerzy Wilski (my colleague from the concentration camp Gross Rosen), a scouting instructor before the war, we founded clubs for soccer, basketball, volleyball, and an educational club with a handy reference library and so on. The work came out just fine. It was time to think about myself, too. Lieutenant-Colonel Wladyslaw Rylko suggested that I transfer to the center of civilian guard training in Mannheim Kafertal. I applied to the University (Wirtschaftshochschule) in Mannheim for admission to studies and to work on a doctorate in economics (Wirtschaftswissenschaft). They accepted me and assigned study subjects and an amount of time for two semesters, that is, with a possibility of finishing studies in one year. Unfortunately, just after I passed the examinations for the first doctoral semester, I was dismissed from the Civilian Guard of the American army in the summer of 1947 (Reduction In Force). Because this was equivalent to depriving me of financial resources for me and my entire family (wife and daughter), I had to resign from further studies. Luckily, before the dismissal, and with a greater cooperation of a special co-op committee, I was able to work out the statutes, bookkeeping, and plant the seed of trade courses in very many guard companies, so that the Civilian Guard of the American Army could rightly be proud of beautiful attainments in education, culture, profession, charity and finances—and always in the spirit of the true independence of Poland.

During the autumn of 1947, I moved with my family to the Polish DP camp in Hohenfels (Lechów) near Regensburg, where I was drawn immediately into collaborative work with a circle of farmers; and I began lectures on economics and accounting subjects. After a few months, they offered me a position with the chief Polish organization in the American-occupied zone in Germany, called "Zjednoczenie Polskie" ("Polish Union") with headquarters in Regensburg—Brunnleite 7. But that is a completely different topic.

11. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, WHICH WAS NOT PRESENTED AT THE DISCUSSION CLUB

Due to lack of time and the huge amount of material to discuss, I did not touch on many details. Having that opportunity presently, I would like to complete some of the topics in short fashion.

While working in the post office in Gross Rosen in parcel reception, I was also on a block with other prisoners working at the camp registry office, such as:

In the Political Section, which settled prisoner affairs in the course of further interrogations (and torture!), verified the records of prisoners sentenced to death, kept under surveillance those prisoners suspected of enemy anti-Nazi propaganda or even anti-camp, and hunted after secret underground organizations in the same camp, as well as checked every so often whether prisoners with death sentences were really executed (by phenol injections, gassing or shooting).

In the Labor Section, which located and controlled the status of prisoners in all commandos of the mother camp Gross Rosen and in all its subcamps.

In the Camp Enlargement Section.

In the Post Office Section, and so forth.

However, the most important was the Political Section and the Labor Section. It depended on them whether one would eventually survive the camp or not.

In periods free from work tasks, there were many occasions for conversations between prisoners on various topics, discrete exchanges of opinions, getting to know each other. The highest prominent of the not very numerous Polish group in the camp registry office was Jan Dolinski, a political prisoner who spoke German excellently, but who did not blindly serve the Germans. He did what he had to. He was polite but he kept his distance. In the group of foreigners, a young Ukrainian from the Polish territories, Antoni Kaminski attracted attention (he was friendly, but something told me to avoid him); and also a tall, stout, middle-aged resident of Belgium or Denmark (I don't remember exactly), with whom I quickly formed a friendship (unfortunately, I don't remember his name either). After a short time he told me, that he worked in the Political Section of the camp (Politische Abteilung), that I am on the list of prisoners who are under surveillance at least once a month without knowing about it—by other prisoners, mostly Germans. He gave me the name of my "guardian angel," warning me not to give away that I know anything about it. Such a prisoner-spy would try to make friends, would bring up certain questions during a conversation, such as who will win the war, who is losing the war, why and whom do I wish victory, what was my attitude towards the communists, and of course the whole time he would agree with my opinions. Afterwards the entire content of that conversation would be reported where he was so told. The information from this Belgian protected me from painful consequences and increased my vigilance and caution in pronouncements to strangers. Shortly after the first warnings, "my" Belgian told me that he has access to a list of individuals of Polish

nationality, who, after interrogation by Gestapo in various cities are sent to the camp in Gross Rosen, but with a sentence of death. These individuals after a few months were called to the Political Section; after their identity had been verified, they were made to stand at attention before the camp administration office, until a designated SS-man would lead them to the crematorium and there kill them with a phenol injection, gas or a bullet. Then on the prisoner's card file in the camp registry office would be noted the date and the letters "ABE" which meant "Auf Befehl Erschossen"—shot on orders.

Because Polish names are difficult to remember for foreigners, the Belgian prepared a short list with the names of the new Polish prisoners that were under a sentence of death. On one of the first lists was the name Antoni Suchon, my younger brother's friend from the Stopnica high school. I had already met with him before in camp. During the German occupation he belonged to the peoples' movement and was a member of the underground organization. One day, a meeting of that organization was scheduled in a village during a dance party. The Germans surrounded all the participants, and Suchon had with him a loaded revolver, which he tossed out unnoticed. The Germans found the revolver, and in order not to put the others in jeopardy of interrogation, torture and maybe even death, he himself confessed during the search that it was he who tossed the gun and that the weapon is his. All were set free, and after interrogation he was sent to camp Gross Rosen with a death sentence.

The camp in Gross Rosen had many subcamps. In some of them mortality was so high, that rarely were prisoners transferred from them to the mother camp in Gross Rosen in order to execute death sentences. Usually the prisoners died themselves from exhaustion or poisoning (for example from the exhaust fumes in the factory of poison gases). The director of the Labor Section was a small, slender, middle-aged hunchback "Krieger," who wore the pink triangle (pederast). For a piece of cake, bacon, lard or onion, he agreed to send—without any publicizing—a Polish prisoner to a subcamp designated by me. In this way the lives of certain worthy people were saved. Unfortunately, I was unable to save the life of my younger (he was about 26 years old) colleague Antoni Suchon. After several months, during the afternoon apel, I noticed him standing at attention before the administration office. He didn't look too badly, he was calm, resigned. Already next to him stood the SS-man who was to lead him to the crematorium for execution. I wept for Antoni like a child.

Unfortunately one day, probably already in autumn of 1944, as I was returning from work for the afternoon apel, I noticed my friend the Belgian standing at attention in front of the camp administration office. I walked slowly across to the other side of the camp street and looked at him. He also looked at me and with his head signaled "no." I understood: he did not betray anyone. Someone denounced him and the SS searched his pockets when leaving work and found some names. He was handed over to the penal company of the horrible murderer "Vogel." My friends and I had to put in a lot of effort, and live through much fear, to save "my" Belgian as well as another of my friends from college years, Stanislaw Dziadus. Dziadus, who was sent from Gross Rosen to the subcamp in Biedrusk near Poznan, escaped from there and was caught by the Gestapo and returned to camp Gross Rosen. We were able to arrange that he would not be killed, only sent to the penal block. Since the camp in Gross Rosen was overloaded with prisoners, they were sending transports to other

camps, located further west. For a bit more cake, bacon and other items received from colleagues, we were able to include our friend the Belgian and Stas Dziadus (later, a doctor and peoples' activist in Poland) on the list of participants of the transport and give them provisions for the trip.

12. DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE POLISH HOLOCAUST

For almost fifty years after the attack of Germany and the Soviets on Poland and after the experiences in the concentration camps, I was unable to withstand the psychological stress involved in discussing or even listening to conversations on the subject of the terrible effects of the war, and above all the results of Gestapo rule. I had a nervous breakdown and burst out in bitter weeping on the stand while testifying in the federal case in Chicago regarding the deportation of a former SS-man from Gross Rosen, Reinhold Kulle, which took place in the years 1983-1984.

But I was also aware of the fact that the recording of experiences of former prisoners of German and Soviet concentration camps is a necessity to preserve historical truth—and I slowly began to control myself, and to speak on those subjects. And so, on September 1, 1989 on the fiftieth anniversary of the attack of Germany and the Soviets on Poland and the outbreak of WWII, two television stations (Channel 11 and Channel 13) in Toledo, Ohio, and also the locally well-known and widely-read daily newspaper, *The Blade*, came to me with a request for an interview.

The matter of the Polish Holocaust and my wartime experiences was widely commented on the two TV stations and written up in an interesting, lengthy article of the major local press. The local Polish American Congress (of which I was vice-president) arranged a solemn observance of the 50th anniversary of the attack on Poland in the local theater located in the old Polish neighborhood, where Rev. Chaplain George Rinkowski presented his war history and experiences, and I presented my own experiences—my Polish Holocaust. In September of 1989, an instructor (Applied Economics) in the high school in Maumee, Ohio, also asked me to lecture on the subject of differences between capitalism and communism.

In October 1989, Mr. Dale Schroeder of Monroe, Michigan invited me to speak about my experiences during the war to the members at a dinner meeting of the local Kiwanis Club. My lecture also appeared in the local gazette, *The Monroe Evening News*.

In December 1989, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, the U.S. Representative from Toledo and herself of Polish heritage, a very well-known, loved and respected person, organized for middle-school students a memorial observance of the Holocaust at the University of Toledo Urban Affairs Center, with the participation of ethnic groups. I was the lecturer from the Polish group.

The terminal illness and death of my late wife, Wladyslawa (who, with her parents and two brothers had already been arrested on January 18, 1940, and whose brother was murdered in a mass execution at Palmir, and her father at Auschwitz) interrupted my thoughts about the Polish Holocaust.

Only towards the beginning of 1995 did I accept an invitation from the high school in Oak Harbor, Ohio (from teachers Mr. & Mrs. S. Kirian) for a chat about my experiences in the concentration camps (it was also recorded on videotape). The children listened with great interest.

If I remember correctly, on October 15, 1995 there was a solemn Mass (on the occasion of the annual meeting) at the American Czeszochowa in Doylestown, Pennsylvania, in the intention of those who were deceased and

those who survived the German and Soviet concentration camps. We set out there together with my friend Albert Ziegler, who is of Jewish heritage. Because Al did not speak Polish, I was his interpreter. The Poles present at the meeting greeted Ziegler very cordially. There weren't even the slightest missteps or shortcomings. They even asked him to light a candle during Holy Mass, in memory of the Jews who perished in the Holocaust.

More or less around this time, I had a short interview by the editor (or perhaps owner) of *The Monroe Evening News*, which later appeared in their published book, *In the Rocks' Red Glare; Recollections of Monroe County Veterans*.

In 1996 we again decided to travel to Doylestown for the solemn observance, and Al was even prepared with special video equipment for this occasion. However, in the interim there was an intensification of anti-Polish attacks in the press and TV, after the so-called "documentary" film *PBS/Frontline Shtetl*. Al Ziegler filmed the entire ceremony. They greeted him very politely, but coldly. There was no sign of the previous outpouring of courtesy and friendship from the entire hall. It was replaced by a polite reserve, although no one told him even one unpleasant word. I know that Al Ziegler felt this very sharply, but he was probably not surprised at this reaction, which resulted from the current attacks on Poles.

After the nationwide broadcast of the *PBS/Frontline* film *Shtetl*, my daughter called the local PBS TV station with a request that they show the documentary film *Zegota*. Although they received a copy of the video from the film director, they still decided not to broadcast it. So, on several occasions we invited groups of people to our home to show them this real, other side of the problem. Naturally, we also invited over our Jewish friends.

After all, the majority of the actors of this documentary film *Zegota* are real witnesses of the drama. They are the participants and authors of this history, which unfortunately a majority of Jews does not wish to view and doesn't even want to hear about it. The kind of help that the Jews received during WWII in Poland was not found in any other country under German control. And this is precisely demonstrated in the film *Zegota*.

On September 17, 1997 I was invited by my friend Mr. Dale Schroeder to talk to the members of the local Kiwanis Club about the attack of the Soviets on Poland on September 17, 1939.

In 1997 and 1998, I had two presentations for students of American history at the University of Toledo, Ohio (at the invitation of teacher Carol Holeman). After my lectures, the students admitted to me privately that they had not known anything about the Polish part of the Holocaust.

In November 1997, I attended a public meeting at the Erie United Methodist Church in Erie, Michigan. Two students from the church had just returned from mission vacations spent in Poland, and were relating their impressions in a most flattering way about Poland. Following their presentation, I spoke on the subject of the Polish Holocaust.

In April 1998, the minister of the same church invited me to their Sunday service to speak at length on the subject of the Holocaust (during which the Germans murdered 6 million Polish citizens: 3 million Christian Poles and 3 million Jewish Poles). The lecture was received very favorably, and the attendees of that meeting recalled it to me on many occasions.

In 1997 and 1998, my friend Al Ziegler and I took part in a whole series of interviews and occasional discussions on the topic of the

Jewish and Polish Holocaust, presenting it as it really had happened. Schools in Toledo, Maumee and Sylvania, Ohio, invited my Jewish friend along with me, a Christian, to speak on and explain those topics. Often, they were videotaped. I must state that my Jewish friend was very objective and reported the matters entirely in agreement with the truth.

Albert Ziegler recorded very many interviews with both Jews and Christians, probably hundreds of hours. Unfortunately, we were not always able to lecture together. Some schools only allotted 45 minutes for a presentation. The best situation was on those occasions when we had 2-3 hours for both of us.

On January 30, 1998, I was interviewed for the Steven Spielberg Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation, with a specially hired videographer. The interview itself was performed by Albert Ziegler, one of the specially trained Spielberg interviewers in the region.

13. BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Mr. Marian Wojciechowski was born April 25, 1914 in Polaniec, formerly Sandomierz district, currently Staszow district, Swietokrzyskie province in Poland. He finished basic school in Polaniec, and a co-educational high school in Busko Zdroj. A graduate of the Szkoła Główna Handlowa in Warsaw (SGH—Warsaw School of Economics), Cooperatives Faculty (master's examination passed in 1937), and Business Education Faculty in 1940.

Former auditor of the Agricultural-Commerce Division (Dział Rolniczo Handlowy) of the Union of Agricultural and Economic Cooperatives in Warsaw (Związek Spółdzielni Rolniczych i Zarobkowo-Gospodarczych w Warszawie).

Former platoon leader in the 21st Regiment of the Nadwislanski Lancers (21-szy Pułk Ułanów Nadwislanskich) in the Wolynska Cavalry Brigade in September 1939.

Former active member of the people's underground movement, Grupa "Raclawice"—AK (Armia Krajowa—People's Home Army).

Former prisoner of the Gestapo in Radom, and of the concentration camps Auschwitz, Gross Rosen and Leitmeritz—from April 1942 to May 1945.

Former officer of the Polish Civilian Guard in the American Army under the name "Jan Wojmar."

Former member of the board "Zjednoczenie" and liaison officer for the Poles in the American-occupied zone in Germany to the International Refugee Organization (IRO) in Bad Kissingen.

Former bookkeeper, and later owner and publisher of the Polish weekly newspaper *Ameryka Echo* in Toledo, Ohio (1952-1961).

One of the former administrators of the City of Toledo, Ohio (1962-1980) in the Relocation, Housing, Rehabilitation and Community Organization.

Former administrator of the Neighborhood Housing Services in Toledo, Ohio in the years 1980-1994 (low percentage loans for repair of homes, also for the purchase of used homes and their reconstruction).

Founder of the Kolo Polskich Imigrantow (Circle of Polish Immigrants) in Toledo, Ohio.

Co-founder of the Skarb Narodowa (National Treasury) in Toledo, Ohio.

Former member of the Rada Narodowa R. P. (National Council of the Republic of Poland) in exile (awarded the Gold Cross of Merit).

Former ten-year commander of Post 74 PAVA (Polish Army Veterans of America; SWAP—Stowarzyszenie Weteranow Armii Polskiej) in Toledo, Ohio; Honorary Post Commander.

For many years, vice-president and for two years, president of the Polish American Congress in Toledo, Ohio (reorganized the local Congress by bringing in the younger generation of Americans of Polish heritage, and proposing a plan of projects for the coming years).

Member of many other organizations:
Polish National Alliance (Zwiazek Narodowy Polski).

Polish Legion of American Veterans—Post 207, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Toledo Polish Cultural Association
Toledo Poznan Alliance (Sister Cities International)

The American Center of Polish Culture
Urban Renewal Housing Authority
American Legion—Ohio, Post 545 in Toledo
International Institute of Greater Toledo, Inc.

Kosciuszko Foundation
Public Employee Retirees, Inc.

Mr. WEINER. Madam Speaker, today we commemorate the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. It is a powerful and important reminder of terror, genocide, and the Holocaust. More than 1.5 million prisoners—most of them Jews—perished in gas chambers or died of starvation and disease at Auschwitz.

Today it is important to remember those crimes against humanity. We must recall those whose lives were lost to the savagery of fascism, racism, and bigotry. We must never forget them.

We must also remember the heroes of that war who helped save lives by risking their own.

On this 60th anniversary, we reflect back, but we also look ahead. We mark this date with a pledge to the living.

We must keep the stories of the survivors—our siblings, parents, and grandparents—alive. We must remain steadfast in our dedication to eliminating anti-Semitism in every country and here at home. We must ensure that all Jews have a secure homeland in the State of Israel to seek refuge.

And we must act to stop genocide—in Sudan or anywhere else. The murder of innocent people must never happen again.

Mr. WAXMAN. Madam Speaker, this week marks the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp. Around the world we join together to mourn the millions of Jews and others who perished in its gruesome gates. We reaffirm our collective responsibility to wipe out anti-Semitism and hatred and remember the silence that let the Holocaust go unnoticed for so long.

Auschwitz was only one of many extermination camps the Nazi's used, but it was the largest and the place where the gas chambers were first refined for mass murder. The searing image of the many tracks leading straight to its crematoria is a tragic emblem of its horrors. It is also a painful reminder of the United States government's decision not to bomb those tracks when it had the chance and its refusal to admit Jewish refugees who later arrived at the camp's railroad platforms.

Yesterday, for the first time in its history, the United Nations held a special session to commemorate the Holocaust and the Auschwitz liberation. While this is appropriate, we should not forget that this international organization, set up to stop atrocities such as the ones in the Second World War, has spent so much of its effort criticizing Israel, the nation that emerged from the remnants of the Holocaust,

and still today has refused to designate the murders in Darfur as an official genocide.

Today we say "never again" to both the intolerance that created Auschwitz and the intransigence that stopped the world from acting sooner. At the same time, we must turn our attention to the neglected crises of our day like the genocide in Darfur where more than 2.2 million people have already been victimized and displaced by a brutal campaign of ethnic cleansing.

The only way to fight indifference is to make a difference. One example is a project undertaken by the students of Milken Community High School in Los Angeles. These students raised more than \$10,000 this year to donate to the International Medical Corps to build water wells for displaced refugees in Chad and Sudan. I am very proud of them for reaching out to help improve the lives of some of the world's most vulnerable people. Let us all learn from their example and the lessons of history so we do not need to wait for 60 years to mark a genocide we might prevent or stop.

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 39, to recognize and honor the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, and to honor the 13 million who perished in the Nazi concentration camps.

It is important not only that we continue to study the terrible lessons of the Holocaust, but that we also express our gratitude to the Allied troops whose service and sacrifice helped liberate those trapped in these factories of death.

The Holocaust represented the systematic persecution and murder of approximately 6 million Jews by the Nazi regime and its collaborators. Dubbed the "final solution" by the Nazi bureaucrats who ran it, the attempted extermination of European Jewry was carried out in camps across occupied Europe. The center of this hell was Auschwitz.

A complex of camps, Auschwitz was built 37 miles west of Krakow, near the prewar German-Polish border, to extract the labor of its prisoners before they were exterminated in gas chambers that ran around-the-clock. It is estimated that at least 1.3 million people were deported to Auschwitz between 1940 and 1945; of these, at least 1.1 million were murdered there.

Sixty years ago, on January 27, 1945, the Soviet army liberated Auschwitz and freed more than 7,000 people, most of whom were ill and dying.

Thirteen years ago, I was able to see this camp firsthand when I visited Poland. Decades after the liberation, the thought of all the men, women and children murdered there was and still is chilling and difficult to endure.

The United Nations held a special session yesterday to commemorate the Holocaust and the liberation of the camps. The ceremony featured speakers Elie Wiesel, a Holocaust survivor and Nobel Peace Prize winner, Deputy Defense Secretary Paul D. Wolfowitz and the foreign ministers of Israel, Germany, and France.

Even as we struggle to come to terms with events that happened more than half a century ago, we must recognize that there are other genocides occurring in the world. In the wake of the conflagration that befell the Jews during the Nazi era, the world pledged that "Never Again" would we stand by as others were hunted and murdered just because they existed. Sadly, we have not yet lived up to

that simple vow—the dead of Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda and now Darfur, have joined the Jews of Europe. I hope that the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz will act as a catalyst for a re-dedication of humanity to ending the crime of genocide.

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong and heartfelt support of H. Res. 39. This resolution underlies the moral fabric of our global society: We must never ever forget and we must be ever vigilant to prevent the hatred that led to the creation of concentration camps like Auschwitz.

The resolution rightly urges that we rededicate ourselves to the fight against racism, intolerance, bigotry, prejudice, discrimination and anti-Semitism. Clearly, such a call to arms is needed now more than ever. For example, the State Department's Report on Global Anti-Semitism states, "anti-Semitism in Europe increased significantly in recent years." Genocide in Rwanda, the ethnic massacres in Bosnia and the mass killings of children in Russia reminds us that not every corner of the world or country is committed to respecting the dignity of its citizens. As we solemnly remember the sacrifice of 12 million people who were persecuted and died because of their ethnicity, political or religious beliefs, we must fight anti-Semitism and other forms of discrimination with renewed vigor. We will be judged poorly by history itself if we do not.

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues in support of H. Con. Res. 16, which commemorates the 60th Anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz.

Yesterday, I went to New York to attend the United Nations first commemoration of the liberation of Auschwitz. It was an incredible day—the first of its kind. It gave me hope that we, as a world, may be learning lessons so desperately needed.

Among other things, yesterday's General Assembly session was a reminder that we, as a country and a world community, must not forget the battles we have waged in the name of humanity. This anniversary provides us with an opportunity to reflect on the horrors that occurred at Auschwitz, and to commemorate the lives of those it took. But it is more than that. That, I suppose, is something we all know.

Hearing the stories of Auschwitz is difficult. It is tempting to want to avoid these horrific memories—to bury the Holocaust deep, so that it will not haunt us. But understanding the immeasurable wrongs the Jewish people have endured—and the scale on which they occurred—is vital to understanding our world today. It is also vital to understanding the depravity of which human beings, when hardened to others' suffering, are capable. It is only through the process of acknowledging and discussing these horrific events that we can prevent similar iniquity in the future.

Anniversaries, as I have said, give rise to reflection. But understanding our past and respecting each other's differences have never been more vital that they are today. Distrust, misunderstanding, and hate have found fertile ground in many parts of the world. We see it in the Sudan, for example. We must meet this challenge by demanding that all world leaders anticipate, understand, and address the issues that emerge from poverty, injustice, militarism, and racism. A good speech can move its audience, but speech without action does nothing for those who most need the words to mean something.

As U.N. Secretary General Kofi Anan reminded us yesterday, in the 60 years since the liberation of Auschwitz, the world has failed more than once to prevent genocide. As we look around the world today, we must open our eyes to the many horrific examples of inhumanity that we are allowing to continue. The Secretary General recounted the history and pointed out that like Israel, the founding of the United Nations in a real sense was a direct response to the Holocaust.

The international community must deal honestly with the Holocaust and with the atrocities that are occurring at this very moment. We must acknowledge its roots, and anti-Semitism persist in too many places around the globe. World leaders must shake themselves out of indifference and rise above political considerations. They must use their position to combat the intolerance that has been allowed to fester for too long. Without an honest assessment and vigilant commitment, we fail to learn the lessons of Auschwitz and prevent the recurrence of these crimes against humanity.

I urge my colleagues to do more than vote for this resolution today. We must work within our communities and across borders to foster respect for all people and deepen understanding of other cultures. We must reach out to the organizations and community groups that teach values such as tolerance and diversity to our young people. We must challenge the seeds of hate before they take root, even when it means confronting our friends. Failing to take these steps is more than a moral failing on our part. It is a failure to make good on the promise we made at Auschwitz six decades ago.

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, today we mark the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz death camp, a component of the murderous network used by the Nazis in World War II. Throughout their network of evil, the Nazis slew the blameless and pure, men and women and children, with vapors of poison and burned them with fire.

For many of the survivors, the Holocaust did not end with liberation. Those who survived faced the enormous challenge of rebuilding their lives. Many succeeded, others did not, but all would remember the horror of the crimes that they were forced to witness. Survivors who suffered this hell are a living testament to the depths of evil to which men can fall. We must never again allow such a heinous crime of man to be committed against his fellow man.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the countless people who have devoted their lives to ensuring that the history of the death camps has not been forgotten by following generations.

Today marks the Jewish holiday of Tu'Beshvat. Tu'Beshvat is considered the New Year for nature in the Jewish calendar and marks the first signs of spring in Israel. On this day of spring and hope, let us renew our commitment to hope in man and rededicate ourselves to those words, "never again."

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, today I join my colleagues to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. On January 27, 1945, Soviet troops entered the Nazi concentration camp and freed the prisoners held there. From the survivors, we have heard heartbreaking tales of cruelty and oppression and now consider Auschwitz a symbol of the brutality of the Nazi regime—a place whose horrors test the bounds of imagination.

The liberation of Auschwitz was a pivotal moment in ending the Holocaust, during which more than 12 million innocent civilians were murdered, including 6 million Jews. These people were singled out not because of any wrongdoing, but rather because of their religion, beliefs, birthplace, or personal characteristics.

Sixty years after the end of this attempt to exterminate an entire religion, anti-Semitism, racism, and xenophobia continue to plague humanity. Despite the lessons of history, the world has witnessed genocide in Armenia, Cambodia, Rwanda, Yugoslavia, and even recently in Sudan, among other places. Furthermore, we continue to hear anti-Semitic sentiments coming out of Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa, and even here at home in America. Now more than ever, we all must work to understand those of different cultures, races, and religions. Mutual respect for our differences will lead to the end of hostilities, and only then will the opportunity for world peace exist.

One of our colleagues, the gentleman from California, Mr. LANTOS, survived the Holocaust and knows firsthand humankind's potential for cruelty. However, he has dedicated his entire life to combating the forces that permit such atrocities, thereby demonstrating humankind's potential for compassion. His tireless efforts to fight racism, anti-Semitism, and hatred in all of its forms remind us of our responsibility to protect those in need, both in the U.S. and throughout the world.

On this important anniversary, I solemnly remember and honor all of those who lost their lives in the Holocaust, thank those that worked for their freedom, and pledge to do all in my power to prevent such evil from ever occurring again.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution and would like to commend my colleague and the Ranking Member on our committee for his work on this resolution. Mr. LANTOS, I realize that as the only Holocaust survivor to ever serve in Congress, these events, which for many of us are a part of history, are personal for you. We honor you for your story and thank you for your leadership.

This week we, along with countries around the globe, mark the 60th Anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz.

Sixty years ago this week, Soviet soldiers arrived at a camp only recently evacuated by the Nazis and liberated nearly 7,000 people. They found people on the edge of death who had witnessed horrors beyond belief and lost their families and their homes. It is almost incomprehensible to understand what took place at Auschwitz, the largest of the concentration camps. Over a million Jews, as well as at least 70,000 Poles, 21,000 Roma, and 15,000 Soviet POWs were killed there.

Sixty years ago seems like a lifetime away. Generations of children have been born since then. Generations have been raised thinking that the Holocaust and events like it are from a distant past.

But these events are not distant and are not in the past. Today, those who survived the camps live to tell us their story and the stories of their families and their lives before the Holocaust. And their children and grandchildren are here with us, too. They are living testimony to the strength, courage, and optimism of their parents and grandparents. But in their

hearts and in their souls they feel the pain and suffering of those who raised them. In them, too, the past is present.

Unfortunately, the past is also present in the rising anti-Semitism we see today. According to a new report released by the State Department, anti-Semitism has "increased significantly" in Europe, is a serious problem in the Middle East, and is appearing in countries with no historic Jewish community. From verbal and physical attacks to vandalism, this new surge of hate must be confronted, condemned, and stopped.

We must also say no to the naysayers who deny the horrors of the Holocaust. It is only by remembering the past that we can change the future.

Before I close, I must also note that we are marking another significant event. Yesterday, for the first time in its history, the United Nations' General Assembly held a special commemorative session on the anniversary of the liberation of the camps. In the past, certain groups within the U.N. have blocked commemoration of the Holocaust. I hope that this is a turning point for the U.N. I hope that this commemoration is only the beginning. I hope that we see more United Nations actions, like this one, taking a strong stand against anti-Semitism throughout the world.

Today is a day for quiet remembrance and strong action. We pause to commemorate all those who were killed in the Nazi genocide and in other acts of genocide around the globe. We honor those who survive. We remember the past. We will act to create a future without genocide, without anti-Semitism, and without hate.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz death camp by Allied Forces, this week in 1945. Soldiers of the Soviet Union found only a few thousand prisoners remaining, most of them too sick to leave, the rest taken away on a forced death march. It is said that when soldiers and prisoners first stared at each other across the barbed wire, some laughed, some cried, and others just gazed at each other in disbelief.

Madam Speaker, it has been 60 years since that day, and we are still in disbelief. Despite all that we know of the Holocaust from books and movies, academic studies and personal memories, we still wonder why, why Auschwitz could have happened. Why was the world silent in the face of such evil? Why did fellow human beings perpetuate such a totality of destruction on innocent men, women, and children? Perhaps there are no definitive answers. It is rather for us to learn from these questions how not to ever let it happen again.

The Allied forces who liberated not just Auschwitz but concentration camps throughout Europe, all shared in the experience of entering a different world, a world where death was the future and life the past. It was their compassion towards the Nazi's victims that enabled the beginning of the survivor's long journey back to civilization, back to justice, and back to humanity. To them we owe a great debt of gratitude.

Out of every historical wrong there comes some right, and the Holocaust is no exception. We have been taught in the last 60 years a great deal about humanitarianism, human dignity, the need for hope, and the will to survive. Holocaust survivors have reminded us not

only about what we've lost but also about how important it is to remember. The State of Israel was formed in the wake of this tragedy, and so many other organizations dedicated to the pursuit of freedom, equality and tolerance have since been founded.

Madam Speaker, today is a time for reflection, but it is not enough today to simply remember. The Holocaust has affirmed in us a commitment to prevent the use of genocide as a tool of war, a tool that unfortunately has been used many times since Auschwitz was liberated 60 years ago. It appears that barbarity, wanton murder, and senseless annihilation know no statute of limitations, and we would be betraying the memories of the millions who died if we continued to justify and excuse our disengagement from that reality. We must continue to fight hatred and intolerance wherever it exists, for human freedom depends on the presence of justice, the justice that was denied to so many during the dark days of World War II. To ignore that lesson is unforgivable.

Today in Darfur, in the Sudan, genocide is taking place. Though not yet on the scale of the Nazi Holocaust, this conflict has engulfed millions of people and cost hundreds of thousands of lives. Innocent people are today being murdered, starved, and driven from their homes simply because of the color of their skin. Though the United States has acknowledged that this is genocide, we have failed to act. Shame on us for failing to absorb the lessons of the Holocaust. How can this Congress commemorate the liberation of Auschwitz while turning a blind eye to the terrible crimes being committed in Darfur? How dare we honor the memory of those who died with only our words and not our deeds.

Madam Speaker, I cannot simply commemorate one terrible event without insisting that we must prevent others like it. History will long record the sins of those who failed to act to stop the Holocaust. Shame on us for allowing history to record that failure yet again.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this important resolution commemorating the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz and call on my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of the Holocaust victims and to pay tribute to the Allied soldiers who fought and sacrificed for the cause of freedom.

This resolution draws from the lessons of history by calling for the strengthening of the fight against racism, intolerance, bigotry, prejudice, discrimination, and anti-Semitism.

I would like to commend the gentleman from Illinois, Mr. HYDE, and the gentleman from California, Mr. LANTOS, for bringing this measure to the Floor at this time.

When we talk of the Holocaust, we speak of a grim and unprecedented period in human history—a unique atrocity, distinct from any other. The mass murders that were inflicted upon the Jewish people and scores of other victims must never be forgotten.

Similarly, we must remember the compassion of the many brave men and women who risked their lives to rescue and shelter Jewish refugees fleeing the Nazi reign of terror. The incidents of countless non-Jews who risked their lives to protect people of another faith were as real as the Nazi death camps themselves.

As Europe and the Middle East experience a dramatic rise in the frequency and intensity

of anti-Semitic acts, it is imperative that we educate and remind the new and future generations about the atrocities committed at Auschwitz and other camps against an innocent people.

Only a concerted, multi-faceted approach to combating this virulent hatred will effectively silence it. Anti-Semitism, intolerance, and bigotry must be answered and fought with all the means at our disposal, so that the horrors of Auschwitz are never again repeated.

We must continue to tell the story, for we owe something to those who perished at the hands of the Nazis. As Elie Wiesel has warned: “. . . anyone who does not remember betrays them again.”

I urge my colleagues to render their overwhelming support to this resolution and to the noble cause of eradicating prejudice and hatred throughout the world.

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 39 offered by the gentleman from California, commending countries and organizations for marking the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz and urging a strengthening of the fight against racism, intolerance, bigotry, prejudice, discrimination, and anti-Semitism. I thank my colleague, Mr. LANTOS, for bringing this important resolution to the floor today.

The lessons of January 27, 1945 are forever with us. That day and the many days of liberation afterwards showed us of the fight which exists to make sure that the world strengthens its efforts to fight against any form of discrimination.

There is great danger in being inactive about the threat of anti-Semitism. It was anti-Semitism that was responsible for the horrors of the Holocaust, for the death of over 6 million Jews, and for the slaughter of over 1.1 million people at Auschwitz.

Sadly, even though we have reached the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, anti-Semitism in Europe has been on the rise. Once again, we witness evil propaganda, physical attacks against Jews, the burning of Jewish sites and the desecration of synagogues. We must not stand aside and ignore this grave escalation of anti-Semitic violence and hatred.

We also saw the shadow of this anti-Semitism yesterday at the special session of the United Nations' General Assembly. Nobel laureate and Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel, Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz and foreign ministers from Israel and a number of European countries spoke to many empty seats in the General Assembly chamber while they delivered powerful and often moving addresses about intolerance and genocide. Of the 191 members of the General Assembly, only 138 agreed with the proposal by the U.S. to hold the special day of commemoration. We must wonder why, after all these years, there are over 50 countries which did not agree to this most basic proposal to recognize a day which will forever be etched in our minds.

Any government whose people exhibit any act of anti-Semitism must provide security and safety to their Jewish communities, must prosecute and punish perpetrators of anti-Semitic violence, and must cultivate a climate in which all forms of anti-Semitism and discrimination are rejected.

Mass violence, the abuse of fundamental human rights, and the mistreatment of human beings as a result of discrimination are ugly

faces of our humanity. Apart from the Holocaust, the genocides in Turkey, Cambodia, Tibet, and Bosnia, the killing of the Tutsi in Rwanda, the slaying of thousands in Sudan, and the deaths of millions during the Irish Famine, are all instances of oppression and prejudice succeeding throughout our history. The complacency and inaction of governments around the world, standing silently by while discrimination grows, is inexcusable.

Today must be used as a day of education, since without education, there can be no real change. Teachers throughout the world must have the support of their governments to teach their students the lessons of the Holocaust and of all discrimination. Our grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and generations to come must be made to understand that racial, ethnic, and religious intolerance and prejudice can lead to the genocide carried out in camps such as Auschwitz, and these intolerances will never have a place in our world again.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join with my colleagues in supporting this resolution, and thank my colleague, Mr. LANTOS, for his unwavering leadership on this issue.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, as an original cosponsor of H. Res. 39, I rise today to support this resolution marking the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz and exposing the world to this dark chapter in human history.

An estimated 6 million Jewish men, women and children, more than 60 percent of the pre-Second World War Jewish population of Europe, were murdered by the Nazis at Auschwitz and other death camps during World War II. The Holocaust and the human suffering perpetrated by the Nazi regime against the Jews of Europe deserves to be commemorated with prayer, reflection and the solemn words of this resolution.

On this day, as we remember the victims of Auschwitz and the genocide which ravaged Europe during World War II, genocide is not a relic of history, but a reality in today's world. The human race has not conquered the tyranny of men willing to commit mass murder—genocide—against other human beings. At this moment in the Darfur region of Sudan our own Secretary of State has called the systematic murder and rape of tens of thousands—along with the forced dislocation of some 1.8 million people—a modern day “genocide.” In fact, it is because I am traveling back from the Sudan and eastern Chad having visited directly with the victims of the ethnic cleansing in Darfur that I am not present to vote in support of H. Res. 39.

Today, as we remember the liberation of Auschwitz, the liberation of human beings forced to suffer unimaginable horrors, let us commit this House as well as the will and power of our great Nation, to the cause of eradicating genocide and holding the perpetrators of such grotesque crimes against humanity accountable.

I commend my friend Mr. LANTOS for his leadership on this resolution and I look forward to working closely with him and Chairman HYDE to end the tyranny of genocide in the world today.

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of the approximately one million European Jews who were murdered between 1940 and 1945 by the Nazis at the concentration camp of Auschwitz, the site of the single largest mass murder in history.

The camp was originally built to confine and control Polish dissidents that the Nazis deemed were a threat to the occupation. Polish Jews were held elsewhere, typically in ghettos. At Auschwitz, the Polish prisoners were treated atrociously and in 20 months, more than 10,000 died. In January 1942, a Nazi plan for the mass murder of Jews was developed. What was called the "Final Solution" was the Nazi policy to murder European Jews. In the spring of 1942, Auschwitz took on a more important role in the Nazis' "Final Solution." The horrifying ability of Nazis to kill thousands per hour took time to achieve and involved such cruel methods as gassing prisoners using carbon monoxide or the lethal pesticide Zyklon B. Conservative and reliable estimates show that the Nazis gassed at least 1.1 million humans at Auschwitz, about 90 percent Jews. However, the torture and killings were not just limited to the Jews as the Nazis targeted other groups they saw as inferior such as Gypsies, the handicapped, Poles, Russians, Communists, Socialists, Jehovah's Witnesses, and homosexuals.

As the end of World War II approached, the Nazis marched Auschwitz prisoners west into Germany in the winter cold. During this march, many prisoners lost their lives. A remaining few thousand prisoners deemed too sick to travel were left at Auschwitz to be killed later by the Schutzstaffel (SS). However, the SS left them alive in the disorder that resulted when the Nazis abandoned the concentration camp on January 17 and 18, 1945. Soviet forces found the prisoners and liberated Auschwitz, the site of so much horror, on January 27, 1945.

The merciless brutality inflicted on the Jews by the Nazis over the course of World War II is unfathomable. It is still entirely unbelievable that individuals contemplated in seriousness the systematic destruction of over 6 million men, women, and children. On this, the 60th Anniversary of the Liberation of Auschwitz, as we honor the lives lost, my heartfelt condolences go out to those who lost loved ones in the Holocaust. They will never be forgotten.

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, 60 years ago, allied forces entered the scene of the greatest mass murder in history—the concentration camp known as Auschwitz. Auschwitz has become recognized around the world as a symbol of genocide, terror and brutality. The liberation of Auschwitz by the Red Army became a turning point in our understanding of the world and of inhumanity. Auschwitz showed us the face of evil incarnate and to our horror, it was an ordinary face.

Auschwitz did not start out as an experiment in death. Established by the Nazis in 1940, it was initially a camp for individuals deemed problematic by the Third Reich—Polish dissidents and Soviet prisoners of war. Soon after its creation, the Germans decided to use prisoners as slave laborers for their large industrial complex.

Once Auschwitz became a work camp, the Germans found themselves faced with the question of what to do with prisoners who could not work. At first, they simply shot them. Eventually they began looking for ways to kill prisoners without unduly discomfiting the killers—ultimately discovering the effectiveness of crystallized prussic acid, a pesticide mass produced under the trade name Zyklon B. When the crystals dissolved in air, they created a lethal gas. The Germans first used this deadly gas to kill Soviet POWs.

In 1942, the Germans drew up plans for the so-called "Final Solution," which contemplated the murder of every Jew under their control. Auschwitz, which had already proved itself to be effective at killing large numbers of people, was perfectly situated to carry out the deadly plan. It was located on major railroad lines and it was easy to move large numbers of people there. Auschwitz became a crucial part of the Germans' effort to eradicate an entire people.

The majority of the Jewish men, women and children deported to Auschwitz were sent to their deaths in the Birkenau gas chambers immediately after arrival. As Germany conquered new territory, the SS gathered and sent the Jewish populations to Auschwitz and other death camps. Meanwhile, other atrocities were also being committed at Auschwitz. In May 1943 Dr. Josef Mengele, an SS physician, and his colleagues began conducting experiments on thousands of human guinea pigs.

By January 1945 the SS knew that the Red Army was approaching Auschwitz. In an effort to eliminate evidence of the crimes they had committed, the SS blew up the gas chambers, crematoria, and other buildings, and burned documents. On January 18 and 19, 1945, more than 60,000 Auschwitz inmates deemed capable of walking were forced by the SS to march through freezing weather into German-occupied territory. Lacking proper food, clothing and medical attention, thousands died during the death march. Many were shot. Those who made it to the rail stations were put in open wagons and sent west to become slave laborers. Some prisoners, many of them too weak or ill to travel, were left behind. Those who remained behind in the camp were liberated by Red Army soldiers on January 27, 1945.

Perhaps the most eloquent survivor of Auschwitz, Elie Wiesel, commemorated the 50th anniversary of the liberation of the camps with these words, "In this place of darkness and malediction we can but stand in awe and remember its stateless, faceless and nameless victims. Close your eyes and look: endless nocturnal processions are converging here, and here it is always night. Here heaven and earth are on fire. Close your eyes and listen. Listen to the silent screams of terrified mothers, the prayers of anguished old men and women. Listen to the tears of children, Jewish children, a beautiful little girl among them, with golden hair, whose vulnerable tenderness has never left me. Look and listen as they quietly walk towards dark flames so gigantic that the planet itself seemed in danger. All these men and women and children came from everywhere, a gathering of exiles drawn by death."

From 1940 to 1945, the Nazis deported over a million Jews, almost 150,000 Poles, 23,000 Roma, 15,000 Soviet POWs, and over 10,000 prisoners of other nationalities to Auschwitz. The overwhelming majority of them died in the camp.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. May we forever remember those who perished there, and may their deaths remind us how our own humanity suffers when we serve as silent witnesses to genocide.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in marking the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz.

The acts performed at Auschwitz 60 years ago represent the darkest chapter of human history. I am often struck by the stark contrast the concentration camps provide juxtaposed with the enlightenment, scientific advancement and progress made by mankind in the 20th century. They serve as a chilling reminder of the evil man is capable of, especially toward those perceived to be different or apart.

Kosovo, Rwanda and the Sudan unfortunately highlight the fact that genocide is an issue that still troubles our world. It is therefore all the more important to remember Auschwitz and reaffirm our global commitment to forever end such wicked practices.

I was very pleased to hear on Monday, January 24, 2005, that the United Nations General Assembly convened in a special session to mark the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the death camps. This was the first time the UN General Assembly has ever met to commemorate the Holocaust, and the first time that the General Assembly convened a special session at Israel's request.

Madam Speaker, in closing I would like to commend the sponsors and leadership for bringing this important resolution to the floor and I urge an "aye" vote.

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, as we vote today to recognize the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, it is worth noting that the number of Holocaust survivors who bore witness to the atrocities at the German camps is dwindling.

One, respected lawyer, Samuel Pisar, wrote an impressive op-ed piece several days ago in the Washington Post. It is hard to imagine witnessing—let alone surviving—the horror. Mr. Pisar movingly describes the last time he saw his mother and sister.

Some, like my father, were more fortunate. A graduate of medical school in Germany, he was able to immigrate to New York in 1935. But he taught our family well: never to forget.

I also want to take this moment to celebrate the life and achievement of the only survivor who serves in Congress—our esteemed colleague from California, Mr. LANTOS, who brought this Resolution to the House floor today. I thank him and ask unanimous consent that Samuel Pisar's article be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

[From the Washington Post, Jan. 23, 2005]

WILL WE 'NEVER FORGET'?

(By Samuel Pisar)

Sixty years ago the Russians liberated Auschwitz, as the Americans approached Dachau. The Allied advance revealed to a stunned world the horrors of the greatest catastrophe ever to befall our civilization. To a survivor of both death factories, where Hitler's gruesome reality eclipsed Dante's imaginary inferno, being alive and well so many years later feels unreal.

We the survivors are now disappearing one by one. Soon history will speak of Auschwitz at best with the impersonal voice of researchers and novelists, at worst with the malevolence of demagogues and falsifiers. This week the last of us, with a multitude of heads of state and other dignitaries, are gathering at that cursed site to remind the world that past can be prologue, that the mountains of human ashes dispersed there are a warning to humanity of what may still lie ahead.

The genocides in Armenia, Cambodia, Bosnia, Kosovo and Rwanda and the recent massacres of innocents in the United States, Spain, Israel, Indonesia and so many other

countries have demonstrated our inability to learn from the blood-soaked past. Auschwitz, the symbol of absolute evil, is not only about that past, it is about the present and the future of our newly enflamed world, where a coupling of murderous ideologues and means of mass destruction can trigger new catastrophes.

When the ghetto liquidation in Bialystok, Poland, began, only three members of our family were still alive: my mother, my little sister and I, age 13. Father had already been executed by the Gestapo. Mother told me to put on long pants, hoping I would look more like a man, capable of slave labor. "And you and Frieda?" I asked. She didn't answer. She knew that their fate was sealed. As they were chased, with the other women, the children, the old and the sick, toward the waiting cattle cars, I could not take my eyes off them. Little Freida held my mother with one hand, and with the other, her favorite doll. They looked at me too, before disappearing from my life forever.

Their train went directly to Auschwitz-Birkenau, mine to the extermination camp of Majdanek. Months later, I also landed in Auschwitz, still hoping naively to find their trace. When the SS guards, with their dogs and whips, unsealed my cattle car, many of my comrades were already dead from hunger, thirst and lack of air. At the central ramp, surrounded by electrically charged barbed wire, we were ordered to strip naked and file past the infamous Dr. Josef Mengele. The "angel of death" performed on us his ritual "selection"—those who were to die immediately to the right, those destined to live a little longer and undergo other atrocious medical experiments, to the left.

In the background there was music. At the main gate, with its sinister slogan "Work Brings Freedom," sat, dressed in striped prison rags like mine, one of the most remarkable orchestras ever assembled. It was made up of virtuosos from Warsaw and Paris, Kiev and Amsterdam, Rome and Budapest. To accompany these selections, hangings and shootings while the gas chambers and crematoria belched smoke and fire, these ghetto musicians were forced to play Bach, Schubert and Mozart, interspersed with marches to the glory of the Führer.

In the summer of 1944, the Third Reich was on the verge of collapse, yet Berlin's most urgent priority was to accelerate the "final solution." The death toll in the gas chambers on D-Day, as on any other day, far surpassed the enormous Allied losses suffered on the beaches of Normandy.

My labor commando was assigned to remove garbage from a ramp near the crematoria. From there I observed the peak of human extermination and heard the blood-curdling cries of innocents as they were herded into the gas chambers. Once the doors were locked, they had only three minutes to live, yet they found enough strength to dig their fingernails into the walls and scratch in the words "Never Forget."

Have we already forgotten?

I also witnessed an extraordinary act of heroism. The Sonderkommando—inmates coerced to dispose of bodies—attacked the SS guards, threw them into the furnaces, set fire to buildings and escaped. They were rapidly captured and executed, but their courage boosted our morale.

As the Russians advanced, those of us still able to work were evacuated deep into Germany. My misery continued at Dachau. During a final death march, while our column was being strafed by Allied planes that mistook us for Wehrmacht troops, I escaped with a few others. An armored battalion of GIs brought me life and freedom. I had just turned 16—a skeletal "subhuman" with shaved head and sunken eyes who had been

trying so long to hold on to a flicker of hope. "God bless America," I shouted uncontrollably.

In the autumn of their lives, the survivors of Auschwitz feel a visceral need to transmit what we have endured, to warn younger generations that today's intolerance, fanaticism and hatred can destroy their world as they once destroyed ours, that powerful alert systems must be built not only against the fury of nature—a tsunami or storm or eruption—but above all against the folly of man. Because we know from bitter experience that the human animal is capable of the worst, as well as the best—of madness as of genius—and that the unthinkable remains possible.

In the wake of so many recent tragedies, a wave of compassion and solidarity for the victims, a fragile yearning for peace, democracy and liberty, seem to be spreading around the planet. It is far too early to evaluate their potential. Mankind, divided and confused, still hesitates, vacillates like a sleepwalker on the edge of an abyss. But the irrevocable has not yet happened; our chances are still intact. Pray that we learn how to seize them.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "aye" for rollcall vote 9, on H. Res. 39—Commending countries and organizations for marking the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, and urging a strengthening of the fight against racism, intolerance, bigotry, prejudice, discrimination, and anti-Semitism.

Over 6 million Jews were exterminated in Nazi camps, and millions of others including Poles, Soviet prisoners, Romanies, members of the Resistance, and clergymen were among those killed, imprisoned or used as slave labor within the confines of these brutal camps. It is estimated that between 1.2 and 1.6 million of these victims perished at Auschwitz alone; and—as a result—no single word in modern language has a deeper symbolic meaning for pure evil than the word Auschwitz.

Auschwitz symbolizes the dark side of human nature, and serves as a lasting reminder that our civilized world must remain forever vigilant in the defense of human rights and human dignity. For Jewish people throughout the world, Auschwitz is a reminder of an unprecedented tragedy, the extreme expression of Hitler's Nazi regime's hatred of the Jewish people and their determined attempt to annihilate the Jews through genocide.

By passing this bill tonight, and through the numerous ways other countries and organizations have marked the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, we collectively and emphatically demonstrate the world's awareness of the terrible wounds inflicted by the heinous crimes committed at the hands of Hitler's evil regime, and the need to keep the memory of these tragic events alive so as to protect the victims from suffering a second great tragedy—that of being forgotten.

Mr. HYDE. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 39.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 26 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1833

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON) at 6 o'clock and 33 minutes p.m.

JOINT SESSION OF THE CONGRESS—STATE OF THE UNION MESSAGE

Mr. BEAUPREZ. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 20) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the concurrent resolution.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 20

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring). That the two Houses of Congress assemble in the Hall of the House of Representatives on Wednesday, February 2, 2005, at 9 p.m., for the purpose of receiving such communication as the President of the United States shall be pleased to make to them.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR AN ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE TWO HOUSES

Mr. BEAUPREZ. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 21) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 21

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring). That when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Wednesday, January 26, 2005, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, February 1, 2005, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the Senate recesses or adjourns on Wednesday, January 26, 2005, or Thursday, January 27, 2005, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Monday, January 31,

2005, or at such other time on that day as may be specified by its Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader of the Senate, or their respective designees, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House and the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the House and the Senate, respectively, to reassemble at such place and time as they may designate whenever, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will now resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

House Concurrent Resolution 16, by the yeas and nays.

House Resolution 39, by the yeas and nays.

These will both be 15-minute votes.

CONGRATULATING PEOPLE OF UKRAINE FOR DEMOCRATIC, TRANSPARENT AND FAIR RUN- OFF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 16, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 16, as amended, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 392, nays 1, not voting 40, as follows:

[Roll No. 8]

YEAS—392

Abercrombie	Bishop (GA)	Butterfield
Ackerman	Bishop (NY)	Buyer
Aderholt	Bishop (UT)	Calvert
Akin	Blackburn	Camp
Alexander	Blumenauer	Cannon
Allen	Blunt	Cantor
Andrews	Boehlert	Capito
Baca	Bonilla	Capps
Bachus	Bonner	Capuano
Baird	Boozman	Cardin
Baker	Boren	Cardoza
Baldwin	Boswell	Carnahan
Barrett (SC)	Boucher	Carson
Barrow	Boustany	Carter
Bartlett (MD)	Boyd	Case
Barton (TX)	Bradley (NH)	Castle
Bass	Brady (PA)	Chabot
Bean	Brady (TX)	Chandler
Beauprez	Brown (OH)	Chocola
Becerra	Brown (SC)	Clay
Berman	Brown-Waite,	Cleaver
Berry	Ginny	Clyburn
Biggert	Burgess	Coble

Cole (OK)	Hulshof	Northup	Tiberi	Wasserman	Whitfield
Conaway	Hyde	Norwood	Tierney	Schultz	Wicker
Conyers	Inglis (SC)	Nunes	Turner	Waters	Wilson (NM)
Cooper	Inslee	Nussle	Udall (CO)	Watt	Wilson (SC)
Costello	Issa	Oberstar	Udall (NM)	Waxman	Wolf
Cox	Istook	Obey	Upton	Weiner	Woolsey
Cramer	Jackson (IL)	Oliver	Van Hollen	Weldon (FL)	Wu
Crenshaw	Jackson-Lee	Ortiz	Velázquez	Weldon (PA)	Wynn
Crowley	(TX)	Osborne	Visclosky	Weller	Young (AK)
Cubin	Jefferson	Otter	Walden (OR)	Westmoreland	Young (FL)
Cuellar	Jindal	Owens	Walsh	Wexler	
Culberson	Johnson (CT)	Oxley			
Cummings	Johnson (IL)	Pallone			
Cunningham	Johnson, E. B.	Pascarell			
Davis (AL)	Johnson, Sam	Pastor			
Davis (CA)	Jones (NC)	Payne			
Davis (FL)	Jones (OH)	Pearce			
Davis (IL)	Kanjorski	Pelosi			
Davis (KY)	Kaptur	Pence			
Davis (TN)	Keller	Peterson (MN)			
Davis, Jo Ann	Kelly	Peterson (PA)			
Davis, Tom	Kennedy (MN)	Petri			
Deal (GA)	Kennedy (RI)	Pickering			
DeGette	Kildee	Pitts			
DeLauro	Kilpatrick (MI)	Poe			
DeLay	Kind	Pomeroy			
Dent	King (IA)	Porter			
Diaz-Balart, L.	King (NY)	Portman			
Diaz-Balart, M.	Kingston	Price (GA)			
Dicks	Kirk	Price (NC)			
Dingell	Kline	Pryce (OH)			
Doggett	Knollenberg	Putnam			
Doolittle	Kolbe	Radanovich			
Doyle	Kucinich	Ramstad			
Drake	Kuhl (NY)	Rangel			
Dreier	LaHood	Regula			
Duncan	Langevin	Rehberg			
Edwards	Larsen (WA)	Reichert			
Emanuel	Larson (CT)	Renzi			
Emerson	Latham	Reyes			
Engel	LaTourette	Reynolds			
English (PA)	Leach	Rogers (AL)			
Eshoo	Levin	Rogers (KY)			
Etheridge	Lewis (CA)	Rogers (MI)			
Evans	Lewis (GA)	Ros-Lehtinen			
Everett	Lewis (KY)	Ross			
Farr	Linder	Rothman			
Feeney	Lipinski	Ruppersberger			
Ferguson	LoBiondo	Ryan (WI)			
Filner	Lofgren, Zoe	Ryun (KS)			
Fitzpatrick (PA)	Lowey	Sabo			
Flake	Lucas	Salazar			
Forbes	Lungren, Daniel	Sánchez, Linda			
Ford	E.	T.			
Fortenberry	Lynch	Sanchez, Loretta			
Fossella	Mack	Sanders			
Fox	Maloney	Saxton			
Franks (AZ)	Marchant	Schakowsky			
Frelinghuysen	Markey	Schiff			
Garrett (NJ)	Marshall	Schwartz (PA)			
Gerlach	Matheson	Schwarz (MI)			
Gibbons	McCarthy	Scott (GA)			
Gilchrest	McCaul (TX)	Scott (VA)			
Gillmor	McCrery	Sensenbrenner			
Gingrey	McGovern	Serrano			
Gohmert	McHenry	Sessions			
Gonzalez	McHugh	Shadegg			
Goode	McIntyre	Shaw			
Goodlatte	McKeon	Sherman			
Gordon	McKinney	Sherwood			
Green (WI)	McMorris	Shimkus			
Green, Al	McNulty	Shuster			
Green, Gene	Meehan	Simmons			
Grijalva	Meek (FL)	Simpson			
Gutierrez	Meeks (NY)	Skelton			
Gutknecht	Melancon	Slaughter			
Hall	Menendez	Smith (NJ)			
Harman	Mica	Smith (TX)			
Harris	Michaud	Smith (WA)			
Hart	Millender-	Snyder			
Hastings (FL)	McDonald	Sodrel			
Hastings (WA)	Miller (FL)	Solis			
Hayes	Miller (MI)	Souder			
Hayworth	Miller (NC)	Spratt			
Hefley	Miller, Gary	Stearns			
Hensarling	Miller, George	Strickland			
Herger	Mollohan	Stupak			
Herseth	Moore (KS)	Sweeney			
Higgins	Moore (WI)	Tancredo			
Hinchey	Moran (KS)	Tanner			
Hinojosa	Moran (VA)	Tauscher			
Hobson	Murphy	Taylor (MS)			
Hoekstra	Musgrave	Taylor (NC)			
Holden	Myrick	Terry			
Holt	Nadler	Thomas			
Honda	Napolitano	Thompson (CA)			
Hooley	Neal (MA)	Thompson (MS)			
Hostettler	Neugebauer	Thornberry			
Hoyer	Ney	Tiahrt			

NAYS—1

Paul

NOT VOTING—40

Berkley	Granger	Rahall
Bilirakis	Graves	Rohrabacher
Boehner	Hunter	Roybal-Allard
Bono	Israel	Royce
Brown, Corrine	Jenkins	Rush
Burton (IN)	Lantos	Ryan (OH)
Costa	Lee	Shays
DeFazio	Manzullo	Stark
Delahunt	McCormack (MN)	Sullivan
Ehlers	McCotter	Towns
Fattah	McDermott	Wamp
Foley	Murtha	Watson
Frank (MA)	Platts	
Gallegly	Pombo	

SWEARING IN OF MEMBERS-ELECT

The SPEAKER (during the vote). Will the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CANNON), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GUTIERREZ), the gentleman from California (Mr. HONDA), and the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) kindly come to the well of the House and take the oath of office at this time.

Messrs. CANNON, GUTIERREZ, HONDA and OSBORNE appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter, so help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations, gentlemen.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER (during the vote). Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that the whole number of the House is adjusted to 434.

□ 1901

Mr. HIGGINS changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote on the motion to suspend the rules and adopt H. Con. Res. 16. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

COMMENDING COUNTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS FOR MARKING 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution, H. Res. 39.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 39, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 393, nays 0, not voting 40, as follows:

[Roll No. 9]

YEAS—393

Abercrombie	Conaway	Green, Gene
Ackerman	Conyers	Grijalva
Aderholt	Cooper	Gutierrez
Akin	Costello	Gutknecht
Alexander	Cox	Hall
Allen	Cramer	Harman
Andrews	Crenshaw	Harris
Baca	Crowley	Hart
Bachus	Cubin	Hastings (FL)
Baird	Cuellar	Hastings (WA)
Baker	Culbertson	Hayes
Baldwin	Cummings	Hayworth
Barrett (SC)	Cunningham	Hefley
Barrow	Davis (AL)	Hensarling
Bartlett (MD)	Davis (CA)	Herger
Barton (TX)	Davis (FL)	Herseth
Bass	Davis (IL)	Higgins
Bean	Davis (KY)	Hinche
Beauprez	Davis (TN)	Hinojosa
Becerra	Davis, Jo Ann	Hobson
Berman	Davis, Tom	Hoekstra
Berry	Deal (GA)	Holden
Biggart	DeGette	Holt
Bishop (GA)	DeLauro	Honda
Bishop (NY)	DeLay	Hooley
Bishop (UT)	Dent	Hostettler
Blackburn	Diaz-Balart, L.	Hoyer
Blumenauer	Diaz-Balart, M.	Hulshof
Blunt	Dicks	Hunter
Boehlert	Dingell	Hyde
Bonilla	Doggett	Inglis (SC)
Bonner	Doolittle	Inslee
Boozman	Doyle	Issa
Boren	Drake	Istook
Boswell	Dreier	Jackson (IL)
Boucher	Duncan	Jackson-Lee
Boustany	Edwards	(TX)
Boyd	Emanuel	Jefferson
Bradley (NH)	Emerson	Jindal
Brady (PA)	Engel	Johnson (CT)
Brady (TX)	English (PA)	Johnson (IL)
Brown (OH)	Eshoo	Johnson, E. B.
Brown (SC)	Etheridge	Johnson, Sam
Brown-Waite,	Evans	Jones (NC)
Ginny	Everett	Jones (OH)
Burgess	Farr	Kanjorski
Butterfield	Feeney	Kaptur
Buyer	Ferguson	Keller
Calvert	Filner	Kelly
Camp	Fitzpatrick (PA)	Kennedy (MN)
Cannon	Flake	Kennedy (RI)
Cantor	Forbes	Kildee
Capito	Ford	Kilpatrick (MI)
Capps	Fortenberry	Kind
Capuano	Fossella	King (IA)
Cardin	Fox	King (NY)
Cardoza	Franks (AZ)	Kingston
Carnahan	Frelinghuysen	Kirk
Carson	Garrett (NJ)	Kline
Carter	Gerlach	Knollenberg
Case	Gibbons	Kolbe
Castle	Gilchrest	Kucinich
Chabot	Gingrey	Kuhl (NY)
Chandler	Gohmert	LaHood
Chocola	Gonzalez	Langevin
Clay	Goode	Larsen (WA)
Cleaver	Goodlatte	Larsen (CT)
Clyburn	Gordon	Latham
Coble	Green (WI)	LaTourette
Cole (OK)	Green, Al	Leach

Levin	Oliver	Shaw
Lewis (CA)	Ortiz	Sherman
Lewis (GA)	Osborne	Sherwood
Lewis (KY)	Otter	Shimkus
Linder	Owens	Shuster
Lipinski	Oxley	Simmons
LoBiondo	Pallone	Simpson
Lofgren, Zoe	Pascarella	Skelton
Lowey	Pastor	Slaughter
Lucas	Paul	Smith (NJ)
Lungren, Daniel	Payne	Smith (TX)
E.	Pearce	Smith (WA)
Lynch	Pelosi	Snyder
Mack	Pence	Sodrel
Maloney	Peterson (MN)	Solis
Marchant	Peterson (PA)	Souder
Markey	Petri	Spratt
Marshall	Pickering	Stearns
Matheson	Pitts	Strickland
McCarthy	Poe	Stupak
McCaul (TX)	Pomeroy	Sweeney
McCrery	Porter	Tancredo
McGovern	Portman	Tanner
McHenry	Price (GA)	Tauscher
McHugh	Price (NC)	Taylor (MS)
McIntyre	Pryce (OH)	Taylor (NC)
McKeon	Putnam	Terry
McKinney	Radanovich	Thomas
McMorris	Ramstad	Thompson (CA)
McNulty	Rangel	Thompson (MS)
Meehan	Regula	Thornberry
Meek (FL)	Rehberg	Tiahrt
Meeks (NY)	Reichert	Tiberi
Melancon	Renzi	Tierney
Menendez	Reyes	Turner
Mica	Reynolds	Udall (CO)
Michaud	Rogers (AL)	Udall (NM)
Millender-	Rogers (KY)	Upton
McDonald	Rogers (MI)	Van Hollen
Miller (FL)	Ros-Lehtinen	Velázquez
Miller (MI)	Ross	Visclosky
Miller (NC)	Rothman	Walden (OR)
Miller, Gary	Ruppersberger	Walsh
Miller, George	Ryan (OH)	Wasserman
Mollohan	Ryan (WI)	Schultz
Moore (KS)	Ryun (KS)	Waters
Moore (WI)	Sabo	Waxman
Moran (KS)	Salazar	Weiner
Moran (VA)	Sánchez, Linda	Weldon (FL)
Murphy	T.	Weldon (PA)
Musgrave	Sanchez, Loretta	Weller
Myrick	Sanders	Westmoreland
Nadler	Saxton	Wexler
Napolitano	Schakowsky	Whitfield
Neal (MA)	Schiff	Wicker
Neugebauer	Schwartz (PA)	Wilson (NM)
Ney	Schwarz (MI)	Wilson (SC)
Northup	Scott (GA)	Wolf
Norwood	Scott (VA)	Woolsey
Nunes	Sensenbrenner	Wu
Nussle	Serrano	Wynn
Oberstar	Sessions	Young (AK)
Obey	Shadegg	Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—40

Berkley	Gillmor	Rahall
Bilirakis	Granger	Rohrabacher
Boehner	Graves	Roybal-Allard
Bono	Israel	Royce
Brown, Corrine	Jenkins	Rush
Burton (IN)	Lantos	Shays
Costa	Lee	Stark
DeFazio	Manzullo	Sullivan
Delahunt	McCollum (MN)	Towns
Ehlers	McCotter	Wamp
Fattah	McDermott	Watson
Foley	Murtha	Watt
Frank (MA)	Platts	
Gallegly	Pombo	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON) (during the vote). Members are advised 2 minutes remain in this vote.

□ 1919

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote on the motion to suspend the rules and adopt H. Res. 39. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, due to my participation in the President's delegation to Poland to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, I will miss two roll-call votes on January 25. If I were present, I would vote "yea" on H. Res. 39 and H. Con. Res. 16.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BURGESS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

SMART SECURITY AND THE CASE FOR LEAVING IRAQ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, the time has come for the United States military to leave Iraq. Even though I was not a supporter of our role in Iraq in the first place, this is not a statement that I make lightly, nor is it a decision that I arrived at easily. But now, more than ever, I am convinced that it is the right decision.

Not all Members of Congress supported the war in Iraq, but we all have to live with its consequences. The global havoc wreaked by this war will affect the world in ways that we can only imagine. And as I said, as someone who did not support the invasion of Iraq from the outset, I still believed at first, once we had invaded them, that the United States had a moral responsibility to assist the Iraqi people as they struggled to rebuild their war-torn country.

But it has become all too clear now that the presence of the nearly 150,000 American soldiers in Iraq, rather than helping to bring about stability and political independence, is actually stifling the country's ability to develop into a flourishing democracy. That is why tomorrow I will introduce legislation calling for a withdrawal of U.S. military forces from Iraq.

I believe that it is the presence in Iraq of our military that has engendered so much hatred of the United States throughout the Muslim world. We talk of holding free elections in Iraq, but we cannot hold free elections when the very country yearning to be free is under the thumb of more than 150,000 foreign troops. Democracy cannot be forced from the barrel of a gun.

Instead of issuing an arbitrary date for holding elections, why not let the Iraqi people themselves determine when they are ready to knock on democracy's door? That way, at least we

would adhere to the very democratic principles we are trying to export to the Middle East.

There are some that say we need to remain in Iraq until we are sure we have destroyed every last remnant of Iraqi's growing insurgency. The United States has faced this kind of elusive enemy before, in places like Vietnam in the 1970s and the Philippines in the early 1900s. We learned then and we should know now that this is a battle that we cannot win, because it is a battle that is not fought on a traditional battlefield.

Bullets will not win this war, because for every insurgent killed, three more sign up to fill his shoes. The suicide bombers of tomorrow are born from the bombed-out homes of Iraq's war zones of today. We have to be smarter than the insurgents if we wish to see a free and democratic Iraq.

In the end, withdrawing our forces is the smarter option. This is not a suggestion that our troops have failed. It is an acknowledgment that the military option itself has failed us. It is a recognition that we need to address the root causes of the Iraq insurgency instead of watching America become further bogged down in an unwinnable war.

In the 108th Congress I introduced a SMART Security Resolution for the 21st Century which called for a Sensible, Multilateral, American Response to Terrorism. Adopting this type of foreign policy will help us avoid the many mistakes that have been characterized in the war in Iraq.

SMART security calls for the United States to address the root causes of terrorism by engaging our international partners and the humanitarian community in international reconstruction and political transition processes.

SMART security calls for increased developmental aid programs, integrated with peace-building and conflict-resolution measures. By withdrawing U.S. military forces from Iraq, we can spend some of the billions of dollars which formerly paid for military operations on humanitarian projects for the Iraqi people, such as new schools for Iraq's children, water desalination plants and improved economic and civil infrastructure.

Mr. Speaker, the United States must stop engaging in a reckless national security strategy, because our current path only encourages further terrorist activities. It costs Americans in our taxes, in our loss of our loved ones. It costs our international reputation, and it makes our troops sitting ducks.

It is time we pursue the SMART security strategy for America. That is the best way to secure Iraq, and it is the best way to keep America safe and secure for the future. If we do not, all we will be left with is the consequences of our current failed policies.

LEGENDARY TWIN CITIES SPORTSWRITER SID HARTMAN CELEBRATES 60TH ANNIVERSARY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. RAMSTAD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to legendary sportswriter Sid Hartman on his 60th anniversary with the Star Tribune, Minnesota's largest newspaper.

For six decades Sid Hartman has been writing his celebrated column, and his WCCO radio show and daily sports reports are heard by hundreds of thousands of loyal listeners throughout the Upper Midwest.

Mr. Speaker, Sid Hartman personifies the American dream. Born and raised on the north side of Minneapolis, Sid started peddling newspapers as a fifth-grader in downtown Minneapolis and doing chores for the sports editor of the Star Tribune when he was in high school. In all, Sid Hartman has worked for the Star Tribune for 70 years, and to this day nobody, nobody, works harder or gets more scoops than Sid. As he puts it, "I get out every day and make the rounds," and that is exactly what Sid does.

The Golden Gophers, Vikings, Timberwolves, Twins, Wild, Lynx, area colleges and high schools, Sid is there every day, as he puts it, "talking to people in person every day, all the time."

Mr. Speaker, Sid Hartman is a true Minnesota institution. He is the pivotal player and chief architect in making Minnesota major league in the world of big-time sports.

But Sid will tell you he is the lucky one to have lived such a remarkable life and career. Now in his eighties, Sid Hartman has not slowed down one bit. He is the consummate "homer" and Minnesota's biggest booster of our beloved sports teams.

Minnesotans can always count on turning to page 3 of the sports section of the Star Tribune and reading Sid's latest jottings on "sports heroes," "stiffs" and "geniuses," as only Sid can label them.

And, Mr. Speaker, nobody has more close personal friends than Sid Hartman. From Bud Grant and Lou Holtz to Bobby Knight and George Steinbrenner, Sid knows them all in the world of sports. I dare say there is not one major sports figure in the United States who is not a close, personal friend of Sid Hartman.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the House of Representatives, it is a privilege to recognize and congratulate Sid Hartman on his 60th anniversary. The people of Minnesota, well, at least most of us, hope Sid continues his legendary sports writing for many years to come.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF UNITED STATES MARINE LANCE CORPORAL JUAN RODRIGO RODRIGUEZ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CUELLAR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of United States Marines Lance Corporal Juan Rodrigo Rodriguez.

On Thursday, January 13, Lance Corporal Rodriguez, a member of the Weapons Platoon, 1st Battalion, 23rd Marines Division, died at the young age of 23.

□ 1930

Mr. Rodriguez was deployed in Iraq in August of 2004 where he served as an infantry assaultman. Juan, along with another Marine, was killed in an enemy attack explosion on January 13. He has been described by friends as a true Marine who was proud to fight for his country.

Before joining the United States Marine Corps, Mr. Rodriguez was part of the United South High School Marine Corps Junior ROTC, where he was described as a model cadet by Junior ROTC staff.

A 4-year member of the Junior ROTC, he always sought out perfection as he devoted countless hours to the Color Guard Team, the Shooting Team, and the Unarmed Drill Team.

In his senior year in high school, Juan Rodriguez was part of United South High School Marine Corps Junior ROTC that earned top honors at the National High School Drill Team Championships at Daytona Beach, Florida. In his senior year in high school, Juan Rodrigo Rodriguez went on to earn the rank of cadet colonel and was named the school's Junior ROTC battalion commander.

His exemplary extracurricular record in school brought him the recognition and respect of his classmates, teachers, and school administrators. Juan Rodriguez received the highest honor bestowed upon the graduating seniors: the United South High School Panther Award presented to those who exemplify the true spirit of the United South High School. Only 10 seniors out of a class of 471 received the award that year.

Amid all of his obligations to school and Junior ROTC, Juan Rodriguez found the time to volunteer in multiple community service projects. He played an active role in Christmas drives for underprivileged children, including Toys For Tots and Blue Santa.

In addition, Mr. Rodriguez was an active participant during Veterans Day and Memorial Day celebrations and, on several occasions, volunteering his time by placing U.S. flags at the city cemetery to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country, or participated with the Presentation of Colors.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my constituents in El Cenizo and Laredo,

Texas, I ask this great body to join me in sending our most heartfelt condolences to the family of Lance Corporal Juan Rodrigo Rodriguez. May God watch over his parents, Rodrigo and Juana, and sister, Fatima, in this time of need.

RECOGNIZING AND ENCOURAGING MENTORING DURING NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH OF JANUARY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BURGESS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, between 1962 and 1998 I was involved with young people as a member of the coaching profession; and during that period of time, that 36-year stretch, I saw some alarming trends. The out-of-wedlock birth rate went from 5 percent to 33 percent; an increase in children living without both biological parents has increased to nearly 50 percent; the United States has become the most violent Nation for young people in the civilized world; it has the highest homicide and the highest suicide rate. Back in 1960, cocaine, marijuana, and methamphetamine were practically unheard of and today, of course, we have a major epidemic.

So as far as I am concerned, Mr. Speaker, the greatest threat that we have to our Nation is what is happening to our young people.

I would like to suggest that the best available solution that I have been able to observe is mentoring. A mentor is, number one, someone who cares. Many children simply have no one in their lives, no adult who shows unconditional love and acceptance of them, and a mentor is somebody who does that.

Mentoring also provides affirmation. No one, whether you are 5 years old, 10 years old, or 60 years old, can function very well if there is not someone who occasionally says, we care about you, we approve of what you are doing, way to go. So a mentor is one who provides affirmation in a world where many young people get very little of it.

Then, thirdly, a mentor is one who provides a vision of what is possible. So many of our young children realize that when they get to be 16, they can leave school; and it is assumed that they will do that because they have never seen anyone in their family finish high school or go to college or contemplate a career. So a mentor provides vision.

Mentoring works. A mentoring program that I have been involved with in my home State of Nebraska has done some follow-up study with the Gallup organization. We found that a mentoring program, at least in this case, increased attendance by those being mentored by 80 percent, reduced disciplinary referrals by 60 percent, and increased academic performance by 40

percent. Other studies have shown that a reduction in drug and alcohol abuse has been about 50 percent, teenage pregnancy has gone down, violent crime has been reduced, graduation rates have been improved, peer relationships have been improved, including relationships with parents.

Mentoring is cost-effective. It usually costs about \$300 to \$500 per mentor-mentee match, whereas it costs \$30,000 to \$40,000 a year to incarcerate somebody. A young person on drugs may cost more than \$30,000 to \$40,000 a year.

The National Mentoring Partnership estimates that roughly 17.5 million young people badly need a mentor; and yet at the present time, we have only about 2.5 million children in mentoring relationships. So we have a gap of roughly 15 million young people.

The Congress and the President have recognized the need by providing \$50 million for Mentoring For Success grants, and another \$50 million for mentoring children of prisoners, and this was provided last year. However, much more could be done.

I urge Members of Congress to recognize and encourage mentoring during this National Mentoring Month of January. Members of the Mentoring Caucus are introducing a resolution honoring mentors. This will be done tomorrow, and we hope that we will have a broad base of support throughout the Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

FINDING AND IMPLEMENTING NEW WAYS TO DECREASE HEALTH CARE COSTS AND IMPROVE PATIENT SAFETY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURPHY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to discuss an important way to address the ongoing crisis of sky-rocketing health care costs. As the burden of paying for medical insurance continues to climb by double digits each year, it is clear that we cannot continue to do the same thing and expect different results.

Efforts to reduce health care costs have focused on health and medical savings accounts, medical liability reform, and association health plans. While these steps are vital and must not be abandoned, there are other actions we must take if we want to make quality health care more affordable and accessible.

As lawmakers, we currently have a limited focus when it comes to health care. Instead of always asking who will

pay for health care services, we should begin to focus on what we are paying for. We continue to fund an antiquated health care system in which patients too often end up paying for preventable medical errors that could be avoided with modern technology.

We need to institute fundamental changes to bring our Nation's health care delivery system into the 21st century.

We live in the Information Age; but health care, one of the most information-intensive fields, remains mired in a pen-and-paper past. We can buy plane tickets online, take cash out of an ATM anywhere in the world; and yet the health care industry remains dangerously disconnected.

Our inefficient health care information systems hold serious consequences for all of us. Patients must still carry their paper records and scribbled-down prescriptions from one provider to another, and any information that slips from their folder is lost forever. This lack of comprehensive technology results in medical errors, misdiagnosis, and needless test duplications; increases costs; and reduces the overall quality of health care.

Doctors and nurses often have only brief moments to examine voluminous paper medical records and risk missing critical patient information.

A wealth of information is available highlighting the need to modernize the American health care system sooner rather than later.

The Institute of Medicine reports that over 7,000 people die every year just from medication errors alone, with anywhere between 44,000 and 98,000 deaths attributed to medical errors in hospitals.

A study by the Rand Corporation estimates that only 55 percent of our Nation's patients are receiving the recommended care they need.

A recent study by the State of Pennsylvania found that 10 percent of hospitalizations in Pennsylvania under the age of 65 were unnecessary and avoidable had the patient been offered early intervention or high-quality outpatient care.

The absence of information technology in health care significantly contributes to inappropriate or inadequate treatment. These mistakes cost money and cost lives. According to the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council, unnecessary hospitalizations cost \$2.8 billion in unnecessary treatment in Pennsylvania alone. And the Agency For Health Care Research and Quality reports that \$100 billion a year is linked to medical errors in this Nation.

Any other industry would not tolerate the mistakes and the costs associated with these mistakes. As far back as 1998, the Department of Health at the Mt. Sinai Medical Center reported the disparities between private business quality control and the rate of mistakes in health care.

At the time, it was found that some companies had 3.4 million defects per

million parts produced in electronics, and health care had an average of 10,000 defects per million. I do not mean that health care should be compared to the electronics industry, but 10,000 defects per million should be an unacceptable number.

We must begin to look at health care costs in a new way, focusing on overall health and not simply disease, emphasizing the need to move forward in integrated care.

The situation our constituents face every month when trying to pay for their health care insurance requires Congress to bring the information technology that touches every other aspect of our lives to the one area that may mean the most. We must promote ideas to bring the transformative power of information technology to every corner of our health care system in an effort to ensure quality, patient safety, and efficiency through bipartisan solutions.

This is just one of the many measures of quality we need to be addressing to make health care more affordable and accessible. As co-chairman of the 21st Century Health Care Caucus, I intend to come to this floor often during this session with new ways to reduce the cost of health care and offer tangible ways to decrease costs and improve patient safety, and I invite my colleagues to do the same.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 54, CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2005

Mr. SESSIONS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 109-1) on the resolution (H. Res. 42) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 54) to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide reasonable standards for congressional gold medals, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BLUMENAUER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extension of Remarks.)

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF CHICAGO'S SERVICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on February 23, 1905, Paul Harris, a Chicago attorney, invited three friends to a meeting: Sylvester Schiele, a coal dealer; Hiram Shorey, a merchant tailor; and Gustavus Loehr, a mining engineer. All four men gathered in

Loehr's business office in room 711 of the Unity Building at 127 North Dearborn Street in downtown Chicago, which is my district. They discussed Harris' idea that business needed to meet periodically to enjoy camaraderie and to enlarge the circle of business and professional acquaintances.

The club met weekly. Membership was limited to one representative from each business and profession. Though the men did not use the term "rotary" that night, that gathering is commonly regarded as the first Rotary Club meeting. The name "rotary" was suggested later on by Paul Harris as meetings were rotated from office to office in the early days of the organization.

During the early days, the Rotarians realized that fellowship and mutual self-interest were not enough to keep a club of busy professionals meeting each week. Reaching out to improve the lives of the less fortunate proved to be an even more powerful motivation. The Rotary commitment to service began when the Rotary Club of Chicago donated a horse to a preacher so that he could make the rounds of his churches and parishioners. A few weeks later, the club constructed Chicago's first public lavatory. These actions of service and improvement of communities continued in 1967 to support the pediatric program at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago.

Of course, through the years, these services have continued and they have continued to make valuable contributions to the most needy members of our society.

So, Mr. Speaker, I warmly congratulate the Rotary Club of Chicago for 100 years of service, making a difference in the lives of the less fortunate and showing the true commitment of business leaders to strengthen our local and global communities. I wish the club another 100 years of service and Tuesday lunches in downtown Chicago.

ABORTION CLINICS: NOT ONLY KILLING MILLS BUT TORTURE CENTERS AS WELL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, 100,000 human rights advocates endured the numbing cold and snow in a great witness for life here in our Nation's Capital. Their presence on behalf of those who have no voice of their own was truly inspiring. It was gratifying beyond words to see so many teenagers full of idealism and full of compassion and love for their littlest brothers and sisters and for all human life that is at risk.

Indeed, Mr. Speaker, the pro-life movement is the greatest human rights movement on Earth.

□ 1945

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. It is a struggle based on unconditional love,

even for the proabortionists, unconditional empathy for the victims, both the child and his or her mother, and unconditional courage.

We are a movement with deep hope and expectation, that with God's all-powerful grace, and through that all-powerful grace, the culture of death will soon be vanquished by the culture of life, where all human life is cherished and respected. We pray for the day when branding an unborn child as unwanted will no longer mean a death sentence in America.

Mr. Speaker, I have always found the term "unwanted child" dehumanizing, for it relegates a child to the status of a commodity, an object, a thing, something that can be chosen or unchosen at will, not unlike any other consumer product.

Mr. Speaker, with each passing year, the horrific toll of abortion on women's lives becomes more evident, and it is time the media especially stopped censoring the truth. Women deserve better than abortion, and the compelling stories of the brave women, the postabortive women who are silent no more need to be heard. These very special women bear witness not only to the agony and the trauma of their own abortions, but to the hope of healing, reconciliation and inner peace as well.

Wounded women like Dr. Alveda King, the niece of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, who has had an abortion, Jennifer O'Neill, singer Melba Moore, civil rights activist, like I said, Dr. King, and so many others, and co-founder of this group called Silent No More Awareness Campaign, Georgette Forney, have all called on us to listen to their heart-wrenching stories and take seriously our moral duty to protect women and children from the predators who ply their lethal trade in abortion mills throughout the land.

These brave women are the new champions of life. They have refused to be silent any longer. They care too deeply about other women and their children, and they want others to be spared the anguish that they themselves have endured. And to the millions of women who have aborted, they are uniquely equipped to convey the breathtaking love and healing and reconciliation that God provides to those who ask. They do have a connection, the silentnomoreawareness.org, if those who might want to contact them just go on the Web and check them out. They are unbelievably full of compassion.

Mr. Speaker, let me also point out that with each passing year, the child body count from abortion in America grows. Since the infamous decision in 1973, more than 46 million babies have been killed by dismemberment or chemical poisoning, a number fast approaching the total worldwide deaths attributable to World War II; that is civilian and military deaths.

And as we have feared, Mr. Speaker, the much touted baby pesticide, RU-486, rushed to approval by a very biased

FDA, is poison not only to the baby, but women are dying from it as well.

And now we learn, Mr. Speaker, from science and medicine that due to nerve cell development, unborn children from at least 20 weeks onward, and most likely even earlier, feel excruciating pain, two to four times more painful than you or I would feel from the same assault.

Today, along with 75 cosponsors, I have reintroduced legislation, the Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act, to require in part that women seeking abortions at this stage of development be informed of this gruesome reality. These kids feel pain, and we need to make that known to those women who are procuring abortions at that gestational period.

The bill would also require that women be given the option of having anesthesia administered directly to the unborn child, because indirect administration does not cross the placenta to numb the pain that the child feels as they are being slowly dismembered by these later-term abortion methods. One of those methods, the D and E, takes about 30 minutes as the arms and the legs and the body and the torso are all hacked off. And the baby feels pain during this hideous procedure.

Interestingly, Mr. Speaker, the partial-birth abortion legal trials in various courts around the country drew new attention to the pain that unborn children feel during an abortion. In expert testimony during these trials, Dr. Sunny Anand, Director of the Pain Neurobiology Lab at Arkansas Children's Hospital, said, and I quote him, "The human fetus possesses the ability to experience pain from 20 weeks of gestation, if not earlier, and the pain that is perceived by a fetus is more intense than that perceived by newborns or older children."

He went on to explain that the pain inhibitory mechanisms, in other words the fibers that dampen and modulate the experience of pain, do not begin to develop until 32 to 34 weeks of gestation. Thus these children feel pain, and they feel it excruciatingly so.

Abortion is violence against children, Mr. Speaker, and these kids feel that pain.

Abortion clinics, if we look at them as what they really are, are not only killing centers, they are torture chambers as well. I hope that we all can move on this legislation as quickly as possible.

HONOR THY FATHER AND THY MOTHER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, the theme for my remarks tonight is honor thy father and thy mother. The Congressional Budget Office has confirmed, and I might say they are nonpartisan, that the projected budget deficit for

this year for our country will be over \$368 billion, not even counting the additional \$80 billion that will be added to that when bills come before this Congress for additional funding for Iraq and Afghanistan. Though these dollars literally are coming from the Social Security Trust Fund itself, the Congressional Budget Office noted that last year was the largest deficit in the history of our Nation, \$412 billion, is the reason that the dollar value of currency is dropping. In fact, if we add up the last 3 years, we have the largest budget deficit in the history of the Republic.

When President Bush came into office, there was a \$5.6 trillion surplus. In fact, I thought it was rather funny at the time, Alan Greenspan was starting to get worried that we might actually pay our bills. He was a little uncomfortable that maybe the bond market would not be completely happy. What would we do if we paid all our bills?

But now we have a \$2.6 trillion deficit. That is a reversal of nearly \$3 trillion. It is obvious this administration and their allies in the Congress cannot handle the pursestrings of this Nation.

The very same people who brought us this fiscal train wreck, which is getting worse, are now proposing radical surgery on Social Security. Nothing President Bush has attempted to date, not even his incessant effort to shift the tax burden off the shoulders of the rich onto the middle class, is as brazen and audacious as his misguided efforts to try to gut Social Security.

There is no crisis in Social Security. Repeat, there is no crisis in Social Security. There is only a crisis in the Bush administration's handling of the budget. Why would anyone trust the Bush administration on anything regarding Social Security, seeing that they are a miserable failure in terms of the management of the account of the people of the United States?

Social Security is the most successful domestic program in the modern history of our Nation. Approximately 45 million Americans receive their Social Security insurance benefits and disability benefits. Just over 7 million of those are disability recipients. In the State that I am from, Ohio, 1,922,406 individuals receive Social Security insurance benefits and 208,000 disability benefits.

We do not know what is going to happen to our families. One out of five families in this country are going to have an unforeseen happening that will require eligibility for disability. There is no private sector policy that will ever offer it. These are insurance and disability benefits. They are not private accounts. They are not 401(k)s. They are not certificates of deposit. This is an insurance and disabilities program. It has always been that.

The Congress voted repeatedly not to allow the executive branch to dip into the trust fund, and yet that is exactly what is happening today. The President is trying to whip up a frenzy in

the country and say the sky is falling, the sky is falling, trying to scare America's seniors and our young people who are going to get old someday into thinking Social Security is in crisis. Even the head of the AARP has said Social Security is not in crisis, the program will remain solvent, and what we have to do over the next 50 years is just to make sure that the gap financing that is there will cover future beneficiaries.

We can do that in several ways. We have done it before. We can do it again. In fact, what is interesting, the Bush administration's four enacted tax cuts being made permanent would cost 2 percent of GDP over the next 75 years, which is three to five times as much as any of Social Security's future financing needs. Under their plan, instead of benefits being tied to prevailing standards of living during the course of a worker's career, the change would freeze Social Security benefits at today's standard of living, which means we would keep regressing backwards, and future generations of retirees would have lower and lower benefits compared to their wages during their working lives.

This cut would apply to all beneficiaries whether or not they had chosen to have a private account. It should not be an either/or, private accounts or Social Security. It should be both, and make sure Social Security is solvent. Stop borrowing against it. And fine, let us encourage private savings like we used to in this country up until the last few years.

Social Security should be a guarantee, an insurance guarantee and a disability guarantee, as Democrats have not only promised but have delivered from the time of Franklin Roosevelt. Social Security should be a guarantee, not a gamble.

Let me end with the words to the Republicans, I can only say if they want to fight on Social Security, bring it on, because this Member intends to honor thy father and thy mother.

ABORTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BURGESS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WELDON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the foundation of American democracy is freedom. In particular, as Americans we are all free to choose or decline issues of conscience, but regarding abortion, choice is losing in a way that may surprise many people.

Such is the case regarding physicians, hospitals and health plans that choose not to perform, pay for or refer for abortions. From Alaska to New Jersey, abortion advocacy groups are forcing health care entities to do the very thing they would not if they had the choice. Abortion advocates are using the courts, State and local agencies and laws to mandate that abortions be performed, paid for and referred for.

In July of 2002, an Alaska court forced a community hospital to provide elective, non-life-threatening, late-term abortions contrary to its policy. In New Jersey, abortion advocacy groups urged the State of New Jersey to require a Catholic health system to build an abortion clinic on its premises. Last year, the State of New Mexico refused to approve a hospital lease because the hospital-owned system declined to perform elective abortions.

Such coercion is wrong and should not be permitted, particularly with Federal taxpayer dollars. *Roe v. Wade* created a woman's right to an abortion. Today Federal law requires that an abortion be provided to a woman in a life-threatening situation, but in a perverse concerted effort, radical advocates for abortion are engaging in legislative and court efforts to coerce health care providers, health plans and clinics to provide, pay for and refer for elective, non-life-threatening abortions.

In July of last year, I offered an amendment during committee consideration of the Labor-HHS appropriation bill to stop this coercion. This provision was included in the bill when it came to the floor of the House, to which no one objected. It was then included in the final consolidated appropriation bill for 2005.

The Hyde-Weldon amendment is simple. It prevents Federal funding when courts and other government agencies force or require physicians, clinics and hospitals and health insurers to participate in elective abortions. My amendment in no way infringes on a woman's ability to seek and receive elective abortions. It simply states you cannot force the unwilling.

The amendment does not apply to willing abortion providers. Hyde-Weldon allows any health care entity to participate in abortions in any way they choose.

□ 2000

It simply prohibits coercion in nonlife-threatening situations.

But there is the rub. People who call themselves prochoice want no tolerance afforded toward health care entities that desire their rights of conscience be respected. Sadly, radical abortion advocates only support choice on their terms and are more than willing to use the coercive power of government to advance their agenda. Their true mantra seems to be: safe, legal, and coerced.

It is predictable that abortion advocates would look to the courts to enforce their bizarre notion that abortion should not be provided just by the willing but also the unwilling, and that is just what has happened today. In California, Attorney General Lockyer filed a lawsuit against the Hyde-Weldon amendment. He makes a number of assertions in the complaint, and I want to look at some of them right now.

Interestingly, Mr. Lockyer seems to be eager to reserve the right of the

State to coerce an unwilling health care provider to participate in an elective abortion, despite the fact their own State law prohibits them, and which my amendment attempts to provide such protection to all health care providers nationally.

In the 26-page complaint, the California Attorney General fails to point to even one example of a single case supporting the assertion that the Hyde-Weldon amendment would somehow interfere with the State's desire to see abortion services offered as an emergency medical service. The complaint offers no specific case where an emergency situation required an abortion in which a health care provider refused on grounds of conscience. Why? Because it does not happen. The bulk of the rhetoric in the complaint is about this very speculative scenario.

The question I have for the California Attorney General is: Prior to my amendment, was California compelling non-willing providers to perform emergency abortions? If no, then the Attorney General has nothing to fear from my amendment because that is all it addresses. If the answer is yes, then the Attorney General wishes to protect this practice as evidenced by his desire to litigate over it.

In fact, if the answer is yes, the Attorney General is ready to subordinate all other spending priorities in his State to defend his position of coerced abortions.

In this court filing he raises the notion that women will die because they will not have access to an abortion needed to save the life of the mother. Hyde-Weldon does nothing of the sort. It ensures that in situations where a mother's life is in danger a health care provider must act to protect the mother's life.

In fact, Congress passed the Federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA) forbidding critical-care health facilities to abandon patients in medical emergencies, and requires them to provide treatment to stabilize the medical condition of such patients—particularly pregnant women.

The bottom line is that this lawsuit seems to be more about politics and using the coercive power of the state for forced participation in abortion, rather than ensuring that pregnant women in emergency situations have access to life-saving care.

IRAQ SUPPLEMENTAL AND TROOPS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BURGESS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, today we learn the Bush administration plans to ask Congress for another \$80 billion in emergency funds for the war in Iraq and Afghanistan. This \$80 billion comes on top of an additional \$200 billion that we have spent in Iraq since the beginning of the war 2 years ago.

Mr. Speaker, the Bush administration never leveled with the American people about the kind of sacrifices they

would have to make in order to fight this war. You will remember that before the war, President Bush and his war cabinet said the sacrifices would be minimal. They falsely claimed the majority of the war costs could be paid for by the royalties Iraq received on the sale of its oil. Nearly 2 years have passed since the beginning of the war, and we have yet to see one cent from the sale of Iraqi oil.

You would think my Republican colleagues, particularly the ones who repeatedly come to the well of the floor to rail against the waste, fraud, and abuse in our Federal Government, would be demanding some accountability from the administration about the cost of the war. You would think they would be calling for congressional hearings demanding to hear from Defense Secretary Rumsfeld on exactly where the Pentagon spent the \$200 billion Congress already appropriated for the war.

Unfortunately, Republicans have abdicated their oversight responsibility and are giving the Bush administration a free ride on the enormous miscalculations we have all witnessed in the Iraq war.

Mr. Speaker, during World War II, then Senator Harry Truman created a war investigating committee charged with exposing any fraud or mismanagement in our Nation's war efforts in both the Pacific and the Atlantic. Truman was, of course, a Democratic Senator serving in a Democratic Senate majority, overseeing the Democratic administration of President Franklin Roosevelt. Truman never worried about the fact he was investigating a President of his own party. He refused to allow politics to get in the way of good government; and as a result, his investigations saved the American taxpayer more than \$15 billion.

Now, that was a lot of money back in the 1940s, and it is still a lot of money today. But I wonder just how much more money we could save the American taxpayer if congressional Republicans took their oversight responsibility seriously.

Where is the Republican Party's Harry Truman? Why are congressional Republicans so worried about asking the Bush administration for specifics on where it is spending the \$200 billion Congress has already appropriated? Could it be that congressional Republicans are afraid of what they would uncover if they looked too closely into the administration's handling of the war?

The Bush administration has awarded Vice President CHENEY's old company, Halliburton, billions of dollars of no-bid contracts since the beginning of the war. Despite the lack of congressional oversight, we discovered that Halliburton was charging for meals it never served our troops. Obviously, that is a waste of America's taxpayers' money. How many other examples of fraud and abuse are out there?

Mr. Speaker, I opposed giving President Bush the authority to begin this

war. I also opposed the \$87 billion emergency supplemental because I believed the administration had to explain to those of us in Congress exactly how it planned to spend the money.

The days of handing a blank check to the Bush administration should be over. It is time for Republicans to realize that our Founding Fathers gave Congress oversight responsibilities for a reason. We are not here to be lap dogs to any administration. As we prepare to debate another Iraq supplemental, I would hope congressional Republicans would keep that in mind.

STATUS REPORT ON CURRENT SPENDING LEVELS OF ON-BUDGET SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FY 2005 AND THE 5-YEAR PERIOD FY 2005 THROUGH FY 2009

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. NUSSLE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, I am transmitting a status report on the current levels of on-budget spending and revenues for fiscal year 2005 and for the 5-year period of fiscal years 2005 through 2009. This report is necessary to facilitate the application of sections 302 and 311 of the Congressional Budget Act and section 401 of the conference report on the current resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2005 (S. Con. Res. 95, which is currently in effect as a concurrent resolution on the budget in the House under H. Res. 5). This status report is current through January 21, 2005.

The term "current level" refers to the amounts of spending and revenues estimated for each fiscal year based on laws enacted or awaiting the President's signature.

The first table in the report compares the current levels of total budget authority, outlays, and revenues with the aggregate levels set

forth by S. Con. Res. 95. This comparison is needed to enforce section 311(a) of the Budget Act, which creates a point of order against measures that would breach the budget resolution's aggregate levels. The table does not show budget authority and outlays for years after fiscal year 2005 because appropriations for those years have not yet been considered.

The second table compares the current levels of budget authority and outlays for discretionary action by each authorizing committee with the "section 302(a)" allocations made under S. Con. Res. 95 for fiscal year 2005 and fiscal years 2005 through 2009. "Discretionary action" refers to legislation enacted after the adoption of the budget resolution. This comparison is needed to enforce section 302(f) of the Budget Act, which creates a point of order against measures that would breach the section 302(a) discretionary action allocation of new budget authority for the committee that reported the measure. It is also needed to implement section 311(b), which exempts committees that comply with their allocations from the point of order under section 311(a).

The third table compares the current levels of discretionary appropriations for fiscal year 2005 with the "section 302(b)" suballocations of discretionary budget authority and outlays among Appropriations subcommittees. The comparison is also needed to enforce section 302(f) of the Budget Act because the point of order under that section equally applies to measures that would breach the applicable section 302(b) suballocation.

The fourth table gives the current level for 2006 of accounts for advance appropriations under section 401 S. Con. Res. 95. This list is needed to enforce section 401 of the budget resolution, which creates a point of order against appropriation bills that contain advance appropriations that are: (i) not identified in the statement of managers or (ii) would cause the aggregate amount of such appropriations to exceed the level specified in the resolution.

REPORT TO THE SPEAKER FROM THE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET—STATUS OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2005 CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET ADOPTED IN S. CON. RES. 95

[Reflecting Action Completed as of January 21, 2005—on-budget amounts, in millions of dollars]

	Fiscal year 2005	Fiscal year 2005–2009
Appropriate Level:		
Budget Authority	2,012,726	n.a.
Outlays	2,010,964	n.a.
Revenues	1,454,637	8,638,287
Current Level:		
Budget Authority	1,966,349	n.a.
Outlays	1,989,590	n.a.
Revenues	1,450,760	8,565,703
Current Level over (+) / under (–) Appropriate Level:		
Budget Authority	–46,377	n.a.
Outlays	–21,374	n.a.
Revenues	–3,877	–72,584

n.a.—Not applicable because annual appropriations Acts for fiscal years 2006 through 2009 will not be considered until future.

BUDGET AUTHORITY

Enactment of measures providing new budget authority for fiscal year 2005 in excess of \$46,377,000,000 (if not already included in the current level estimate) would cause fiscal year 2005 budget authority to exceed the appropriate level set by S. Con. Res. 95

OUTLAYS

Enactment of measures providing new outlays for fiscal year 2005 in excess of \$21,374,000,000 (if not already included in the current level estimate) would cause fiscal year 2005 outlays to exceed the appropriate level set by S. Con. Res. 95.

REVENUES

Enactment of measures that would reduce revenue for fiscal year 2005 (if not already included in the current level estimate) would cause revenues to fall further below the appropriate level set by S. Con. Res. 95.

Enactment of measures resulting in revenue reduction for the period of fiscal years 2005 through 2009 (if not already included in the current level estimate) would cause revenues to fall further below the appropriate levels set by S. Con. Res. 95.

DIRECT SPENDING LEGISLATION—COMPARISON OF CURRENT LEVEL WITH AUTHORIZING COMMITTEE 302(A) ALLOCATIONS FOR DISCRETIONARY ACTION, REFLECTING ACTION COMPLETED AS OF JANUARY 21, 2005

[Fiscal years, in millions of dollars]

House committee	2005		2005–2009 total	
	BA	Outlays	BA	Outlays
Agriculture:				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	0	0	0	0
Difference	0	0	0	0
Armed Services:				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	–1,530	581	–17	1,659
Difference	–1,530	581	–17	1,659
Education and the Workforce:				
Allocation	68	56	236	230
Current Level	–14	42	230	207
Difference	–82	–14	–6	–23
Energy and Commerce:				
Allocation	576	483	4,350	3,381
Current Level	445	145	2,645	1,333
Difference	–131	–338	–1,705	–2,048
Financial Services:				
Allocation	1	1	17	17
Current Level	–6	–6	–5	–5
Difference	–7	–7	–22	–22
Government Reform:				
Allocation	1	1	19	19
Current Level	22	4	42	32
Difference	21	3	23	13
House Administration:				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	0	0	0	0
Difference	0	0	0	0
Intelligence:				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	0	0	–1	–1
Difference	0	0	–1	–1
International Relations:				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	0	0	0	0
Difference	0	0	0	0
Judiciary:				
Allocation	15	15	35	35

DIRECT SPENDING LEGISLATION—COMPARISON OF CURRENT LEVEL WITH AUTHORIZING COMMITTEE 302(A) ALLOCATIONS FOR DISCRETIONARY ACTION, REFLECTING ACTION
COMPLETED AS OF JANUARY 21, 2005—Continued

[Fiscal years, in millions of dollars]

House committee	2005		2005–2009 total	
	BA	Outlays	BA	Outlays
Current Level	5	5	29	29
Difference	–10	–10	–6	–6
Resources:				
Allocation	2	2	10	10
Current Level	2	2	14	14
Difference	0	0	4	4
Science:				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	0	0	0	0
Difference	0	0	0	0
Small Business:				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	0	0	0	0
Difference	0	0	0	0
Transportation and Infrastructure:				
Allocation	1,737	4	22,070	12
Current Level	4,615	–2	4,623	17
Difference	2,878	–6	–17,447	5
Veterans' Affairs:				
Allocation	0	0	0	0
Current Level	–26	–28	–23	–22
Difference	–26	–28	–23	–22
Ways and Means:				
Allocation	1,368	804	3,470	3,244
Current Level	3,455	3,434	19,949	19,981
Difference	2,087	2,630	16,479	16,737
Reconciliation	0	0	4,600	4,600
Current Level	0	0	0	0
Difference	0	0	–4,600	–4,600

DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005—COMPARISON OF CURRENT LEVEL WITH APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE 302(a) ALLOCATION AND APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE 302(b) SUBALLOCATIONS

[In millions of dollars]

Appropriations Subcommittee	302(b) suballocations as of July 22, 2004 (H. Rpt. 108–633)		Current level reflecting ac- tion completed as of Janu- ary 21, 2005		Current level minus sub- allocations	
	BA	OT	BA	OT	BA	OT
Agriculture, Rural Development	16,841	18,113	16,833	18,378	–8	265
Commerce, Justice, State	39,815	40,463	39,826	40,215	11	–248
National Defense	390,931	415,987	390,933	415,774	2	–213
District of Columbia	560	554	556	538	–4	–16
Energy & Water Development	27,993	27,973	28,256	28,027	263	54
Foreign Operations	19,386	26,735	19,545	26,740	159	5
Homeland Security	32,000	29,873	31,980	29,665	–20	–208
Interior	20,039	20,214	19,875	19,927	–164	–287
Labor, HHS & Education	142,526	141,117	142,394	141,522	–132	405
Legislative Branch	3,575	3,696	3,546	3,688	–29	–8
Military Construction	10,003	10,015	10,003	9,975	0	–40
Transportation-Treasury	25,320	68,993	25,484	70,152	164	1,159
VH-HUD-Independent Agencies	92,930	101,732	93,069	101,744	139	12
Unassigned	0	283	0	0	0	–283
Total (Section 302(a) Allocation)	821,919	905,748	822,300	906,345	381	597

*Statement of FY2006 advance appropriations
under section 401 of S. Con. Res. 95 reflecting
action completed as of January 21, 2005*

[In millions of dollars]

Budget authority	23,158
Appropriate Level	23,158
Current Level:	
Interior Subcommittee: Elk Hills	36
Labor, Health and Human Serv- ices, Education Sub- committee:	
Employment and Training Administration	2,463
Education for the Disadvan- tagged	7,383
School Improvement	1,435
Children and Family Services (Head Start)	1,400
Special Education	5,413
Vocational and Adult Edu- cation	791
Transportation and Treasury Subcommittee: Payment to Postal Service	62
Veterans, Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee: Section 8 Renewals	4,200
Total	23,183
Current Level over (+) / under (–) Appropriate Level	25

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, January 24, 2005.

Hon. JIM NUSSLE,
Chairman, Committee on the Budget,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The enclosed report shows the effects of Congressional action on the fiscal year 2005 budget and is current through January 21, 2004. This report is submitted under section 308(b) and in aid of section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended.

The estimates of budget authority, outlays, and revenues are consistent with the technical and economic assumptions of S. Con. Res. 95, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2005. The budget resolution figures incorporate revisions submitted by the Committee on the Budget to the House to reflect funding for wildland fire suppression and for technical reasons. These revisions are authorized by sections 312 and 313 of S. Con. Res. 95. In addition, under section 402 of S. Con. Res. 95, amounts designated as emergency requirements are exempt from enforcement of the budget resolution. As a result, the enclosed current level report excludes these amounts (see footnote 2 of the report).

Since my last letter, dated November 17, the Congress has cleared and the President has signed the following acts that changed budget authority, outlays, or revenues for fiscal year 2005:

The Second Continuing Resolution, 2005 (Public Law 108–416);

The Miscellaneous Trade and Technical Corrections Act (Public Law 108–429);

The Third Continuing Resolution, 2005 (Public Law 108–434);

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (Public Law 108–447);

An act to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act (Public Law 108–448);

The Arizona Water Settlements Act (Public Law 108–451);

The Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act of 2004 (Public Law 108–454);

The Thrift Savings Plan Open Elections Act of 2004 (Public Law 108–469);

An act to authorize salary adjustments for Justices and Judges of the United States (Public Law 108–491);

An act to amend to Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (Public Law 108–493);

An act to amend the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act (Public Law 108–494);

The Federal Employee Dental and Vision Benefits Act of 2004 (Public Law 108–496); and

An act to accelerate the income tax benefits for charitable cash contributions for the relief of victims of the Indian Ocean tsunami (Public Law 109–1).

The effects of the actions listed above are detailed in the accompanying report.

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS HOLTZ-EAKIN,
Director.

FISCAL YEAR 2005 HOUSE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT AS OF JANUARY 21, 2004

[In millions of dollars]

	Budget authority	Outlays	Revenues
Enacted in previous sessions:			
Revenues	n.a.	n.a.	1,482,831
Permanent and other spending legislation	1,175,185	1,129,242	n.a.
Appropriation legislation ¹	0	391,841	n.a.
Offsetting receipts	-398,008	-398,008	n.a.
Total, enacted in previous sessions	777,178	1,123,075	1,482,831
Enacted this session:			
Authorizing Legislation:			
TANF and Related Programs Continuation Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-262)	122	138	0
Bunning-Bereuter-Blumenauer Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-264)	-1	-1	0
Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-265)	66	57	0
GAO Human Capital Reform Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-271)	1	1	0
An act to renew import restrictions on Burma (P.L. 108-272)	0	0	-10
AGOA Acceleration Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-274)	0	0	-30
Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-280)	0	-11	0
United States-Australia Free Trade Implementation Act (P.L. 108-286)	0	0	-29
John Marshall Commemorative Coin Act (P.L. 108-290)	-2	-2	0
Marine Corps 230th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Act (P.L. 108-291)	-3	-3	0
Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act (P.L. 108-293)	2	2	0
SUTA Dumping Prevention Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-295)	-7	-7	0
Morocco Free Trade Agreement (P.L. 108-302)	0	0	-5
Welfare Reform Extension Act, Part VIII (P.L. 108-308)	416	379	0
First Continuing Resolution, 2005 (P.L. 108-309) ²	143	24	25
Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2004, Part V (P.L. 108-310)	4,493	7	0
Working Families Tax Relief Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-310)	2,126	2,126	-27,054
An act to amend the Lease Lot Conveyance Act of 2002 (P.L. 108-351)	1	1	0
American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-357)	764	764	-4,927
Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005 (P.L. 108-375)	-1,530	581	0
Provo River Project Transfer Act (P.L. 108-382)	-1	-1	0
2004 District of Columbia Omnibus Authorization Act (P.L. 108-386)	20	2	0
Taxpayer-Teacher Protection Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-409)	-80	-15	0
Second Continuing Resolution, 2005 (P.L. 108-416)	12	12	5
Miscellaneous Trade and Technical Corrections Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-429)	0	0	-167
Third Continuing Resolution, 2005 (P.L. 108-434)	0	0	2
An act to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act (P.L. 108-448)	145	145	0
Arizona Water Settlements Act (P.L. 108-451)	2	2	0
Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-454)	-26	-28	0
Thrift Savings Plan Open Elections Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-469)	0	0	-1
An act to authorize salary adjustments for Justices and Judges of the United States (P.L. 108-491)	5	5	0
An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (P.L. 108-493)	-1	-1	-1
An act to amend the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act (P.L. 108-494)	300	0	0
Federal Employee Dental and Vision Benefits Enhancement Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-496)	1	1	0
An act to accelerate the income tax benefits for charitable cash contributions for the relief of victims of the Indian Ocean tsunami (P.L. 108-1) ³	0	0	-11
Total, authorizing legislation	6,968	4,178	-32,203
Appropriations Acts:			
Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2005 (P.L. 108-287) ²	391,153	266,777	0
Military Construction Appropriations Act, 2005 (P.L. 108-324) ²	10,003	2,447	0
Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2005 (P.L. 108-334)	30,557	18,473	0
District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 2005 (P.L. 108-335)	560	481	0
Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (P.L. 108-447) ²	764,621	576,603	131
Total, enacted this session	1,203,862	868,959	-32,072
Entitlements and mandates: Difference between enacted levels and budget resolution estimates for appropriated entitlements and other mandatory programs	-14,691	-2,444	n.a.
Total Current Level 1, ²	1,966,349	1,989,590	1,450,760
Total Budget Resolution	2,012,726	2,010,964	1,454,637
Current Level Over Budget Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Current Level Under Budget Resolution	46,377	21,374	3,877
Memorandum:			
Revenues, 2005-2009:			
House Current Level	n.a.	n.a.	8,565,703
House Budget Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	8,638,287
Current Level Over Budget Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Current Level Under Budget Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	72,584

Notes: n.a. = not applicable; P.L. = Public Law. Numbers may not sum to totals because of rounding.

1. For purposes of enforcing section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act in the House, the budget resolution does not include Social Security administrative expenses, which are off-budget. As a result, the current level excludes these items.

2. Per section 402 of S. Con. Res. 95, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2005, provisions designated as emergency requirements are exempt from enforcement of the budget resolution. As a result, current level excludes the following amounts: outlays of \$19,902 million from 2004 budget authority provided in the Defense Appropriations Act, 2005 (P.L. 108-287); outlays of \$622 million from funds provided in the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2004 (P.L. 108-303); outlays of \$444 million from funds provided in the Continuing Resolution, 2005 (P.L. 108-309); budget authority of \$14,528 million and outlays of \$6,995 million from the Military Construction Appropriations Act, 2005 (P.L. 108-324); and budget authority of \$396 million and outlays of \$167 million from the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (P.L. 108-447).

3. Legislation to aid victims of the tsunami (P.L. 109-1) was enacted in the 109th Congress. All other legislation listed in this section was enacted in the 108th Congress.

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, there has been wide political discussion recently on the imperative nature of support for our troops. Yesterday, unexpectedly, Senators from the Democrat Party used strong rhetoric in discussing the needed support for both our military and our veterans. These are wonderful comments of support, but

they must not stop as mere comments. This should be a matter of bipartisan support.

I was in the United States Army on active duty from 1978 to 1982. I personally believe President Carter was one of the most honest, caring, and decent Presidents we have ever had; but his administration was exceedingly weak in its support for the military and for its veterans. Terrorists were sent a clear message when his administration failed to respond in any meaningful way after U.S. soil was attacked and

terrorists took U.S. hostages who were held for over a year. The U.S. appeared to be a toothless, hapless, spineless paper tiger.

At Fort Benning, Georgia, we in the United States Army saw the dawn of a new day with the Reagan administration. We began to see supply requests met, improved conditions, and, yes, much better morale. We had a President who meant what he said and he

said he supported the military. President Reagan kept his promises. However, under the President in office during the 1990s, the military budget was again severely cut.

Once again my friends who remained in the military could feel the renewed respect and help for the military when President George W. Bush took office. Not only has the military been much better equipped and supplied, but also the Republican-controlled Congress has been increasing veterans' benefits. In fact, since Republicans took control of Congress there has been a 58 percent increase in veterans funding.

Just as the vast cuts during the Carter administration depleted and drained the strength of the U.S. military, during the 1990s the White House bragged of vast cuts in government when, in fact, the only true cuts were in military personnel. As a result of those cuts during the 1990s, George W. Bush's administration found itself, just as President Reagan had, battling to rebuild military strength.

We in this Republican-controlled Congress have done that and continue to do that along with some other friends. If yesterday's speeches were heartfelt, and there truly is a desire among Senators across the aisle to strengthen the military, to protect those who are protecting us and to keep and help our courageous veterans, I say, with arms open wide, Welcome to the Republican agenda.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. STRICKLAND) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. STRICKLAND addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

KEEPING PROMISES TO VETERANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, for the past 14 years, I have had the privilege of representing the largest U.S. Army installation in the world, Fort Hood, an installation that has sent over 40,000 brave American soldiers to fight in Iraq. That is why I am so deeply offended and shocked that the Under Secretary of Defense in this administration, the Under Secretary of Defense for personnel and readiness, Dr. Chu, was quoted in today's Wall Street Journal as saying, in reference to programs funding military retirees and veterans, "The amounts have gotten to the point where they are hurtful. They are taking away from the Nation's ability to defend itself."

I am appalled, Mr. Speaker, and I believe veterans and military retirees all across this country have a right to be offended that the Under Secretary of Defense in this administration would say that the very men and women who

risk their lives and sacrifice greatly to defend our Nation are responsible for hurting our Nation's ability "to defend itself." It is a wrong statement.

The truth is that veterans have kept their promises to our Nation and now our Nation has a moral obligation to keep its promises to those who have served our Nation in uniform. The truth is, Mr. Speaker, that respecting the sacrifices of our veterans in responsible ways with quality health care and decent benefits is not only the right thing to do, because our veterans have earned those benefits, it is the smart thing to do.

As someone who has represented 40,000 soldiers over the last 14 years, I can tell you that when we break our promises to yesterday's service men and women we call veterans, today's service men and women are going to pay attention. The fact is, in a voluntary military force, we cannot bring the best and brightest into our military if we do not keep our promises made to our veterans.

My good colleague and friend from Texas, the previous speaker, talked about the 58 percent increase in veterans funding during this administration. That is part of the facts. The rest of the story is that much of those increases came from the leadership of Democrats and Republicans here in this Congress. The fact is that over the last couple of years we have added well over \$1 billion, now approaching \$2 billion in funding for veterans health care that the administration did not ask for.

The fact is that we are spending too little, not too much on our veterans and military retirees. The truth is that last year's budget for veterans health care did not even keep up with inflation. So, in effect, we had a real cut in veterans health care spending during a time of war. What happened to the principle of shared sacrifice during a time of war?

I find it outrageous and offensive that Secretary Chu blamed veterans for trying to undermine our Nation's security, when just as easily this administration, along with Dr. Chu, could suggest perhaps we reduce a little bit of that \$124,000-a-year tax break that the administration and the Republicans in Congress have given to people in America making over \$1 million a year.

Maybe before we start blaming military widows for undermining our Nation's security, maybe before Dr. Chu starts criticizing veterans and military retirees who risked their lives in Vietnam and Iraq, Korea, Iwo Jima and Normandy, maybe they should look at their own policies that have provided tax breaks for Members of Congress, tax breaks for people making over \$1 million a year that, in my opinion, make a farce out of the quintessential American value and principle of shared sacrifice during a time of war.

I would hope Dr. Chu will quickly retract his outrageous attack on our Na-

tion's finest, those men and women who have served our country so admirably in uniform.

□ 2015

Mr. Speaker, I would hope that the administration before the sun sets another day will say that Dr. Chu's statement does not reflect administration policy. I hope that the Republican leadership in the House joins with me in a bipartisan effort to criticize this outrageous and wrong attack on America's military veterans and retirees.

The fact is we should be saluting our veterans, especially during a time of war, not criticizing and attacking them. The fact is that we spend much too little in keeping our promises to our servicemen and women who have retired, not too much.

I hope we can see this kind of statement relegated to the back pages of mistakes made by administration officials. Together the leadership of this House should fight for veterans benefits in the months ahead, although I would say, Mr. Speaker, I am concerned that the House leadership recently fired rather than saluted the Republican chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs in the House because he had stood up for veterans. Our veterans have stood up for us, let us stand up for them.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BURGESS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. MALONEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

ONGOING WAR IN IRAQ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MEEHAN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, tonight I would like to address the most urgent issue facing our Nation today, the ongoing war in Iraq.

I recently returned from a congressional delegation trip to Iraq with the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON) and several of our colleagues on the House Committee on Armed Services. Meeting with our servicemen and women in Iraq made me appreciate their service and their courage even more. My trip also reinforced my conviction that America needs an exit strategy from Iraq, and that is what I would like to discuss tonight.

It has been nearly 2 years since we invaded Iraq and removed one of the world's most brutal regimes; but 2 years later, America's Armed Forces are confronting a far more resilient enemy, a growing insurgency that has plunged Iraq into violence and chaos.

The elections are drawing closer. The peace and stability seem to be moving

further and further away. How we got to this point in time has been the subject of an extensive debate. How did our intelligence fail us so badly about Iraq's weapons of mass destruction? Was that intelligence deliberately manipulated by the administration in order to rush to war? Why did the Bush administration not give the U.N. inspectors more time to conduct their inspections, and how did we allow so much chaos to grow out of Saddam Hussein's downfall? And why did we not have a better plan to secure the peace?

Many of us have strong views about these issues, and many of us have been quite vocal in expressing them. Unfortunately, when there is a hotly contested Presidential campaign, the national debate often descends into starkly partisan terms. I believe this is what happened to much of the debate about our policy in Iraq.

In Congress the bipartisanship was lacking, and partisanship was especially bad. Most Republicans saw it as their responsibility to defend the President's policies, however flawed. Many Democrats viewed their role as questioning and criticizing all that went wrong without necessarily offering policy alternatives. The result has been a failure to forge bipartisan consensus and develop answers to the pressing questions about our involvement in Iraq. By rallying behind the administration's policy, the Republican leadership in Congress failed in its responsibility to lead, not just follow, on issues of war and peace. At the same time, many Democrats who opposed the war from the beginning have spent more energy lamenting the past than thinking about solutions for the future.

A substantive, nonpartisan reassessment of America's goals and options in Iraq is long overdue. The time has come for us to change our focus from the missteps of the past to the challenge that confronts us in the immediate future.

When I visited with our soldiers on the front lines, they were not focused on the mistakes of last year, they were concerned about what we are doing today and tomorrow. Now more than ever, with our current policy going nowhere, America needs to form a bipartisan consensus behind a strategy, a responsible strategy, in Iraq.

Today I challenge my colleagues in Congress to work together to develop answers to the most urgent question facing our country today: How can the United States put Iraq on a path toward self-sufficiency and begin to bring our troops home in a way that advances our strategic interests? We owe it to the American people and we owe it to the brave men and women who are putting their lives on the line every day.

All of us in Congress have met with the family of guardsmen and reservists whose deployments have been extended. We have spoken to too many mothers of soldiers and attended too

many funerals to leave these fundamental questions unanswered. We must stop looking backward and thinking defensively. We must start looking forward and developing proactive ideas about the next steps in Iraq.

It is clear that the administration has no endgame in sight. It is time for Congress to reassert its role in foreign policy and take the lead on providing an exit strategy in Iraq.

The first step in Iraq to any exit strategy is an honest assessment of the facts on the ground there. It is time to take the rose-tinted glasses off and put aside our partisan hostilities and start with the basics: What is going well, and what is not? What is still possible in Iraq, and how do we get there?

In search of answers to these questions, I returned to Iraq earlier this month. The last time I was in Iraq was August 2003, 4 months after the fall of Baghdad. Iraq was hardly a safe place then, but we were able to walk the streets and talk with average Iraqis, something I had hoped to do this time. Unfortunately, the threat of violence was simply too high. Baghdad is still a war zone.

My colleagues and I traveled in heavily armed military convoys, zigzagging through the streets to avoid ambushes. In Iraq today the expectation is that any American or anyone associated with the Americans will be attacked.

The United States has spent more than \$150 billion on military operations in Iraq, with another \$80 billion that the administration is going to request from this House next month in a new supplemental budget. We have maintained between 100,000 and 150,000 troops for 2 years. The Army's current plan is to maintain that level until at least 2007.

Over the past year, America has sent more soldiers and more money to Iraq, but we have seen more violence. As Iraq prepares to hold elections 5 days from now, the violence is worse than it has ever been. All of us hope that the elections will proceed peacefully and safely with maximum participation, but we should be realistic that regardless of who votes or who wins, the insurgency will continue.

When Saddam was captured, we hoped the insurgents would give up. When we transferred sovereignty, we hoped that the violence would end. And when we routed the insurgents in Fallujah, we hoped it would break their backs. But with each milestone, the insurgency has come back stronger and more deadly. Attacks on U.S. forces have grown steadily both in frequency and sophistication. Attacks on Iraqi security forces, civilians and the infrastructure are also on the rise. Coalition forces have been killing and capturing 1,000 to 3,000 insurgents every month for more than a year. But over that same time, the insurgency has quadrupled its ranks from at least 5,000 insurgents to at least 20,000 insurgents in that same amount of time.

More troubling is a network of Iraqi civilians, 200,000 by some estimates,

who offer both active and passive support, arms, materiel, sanctuary, and, most important, intelligence. It is often better intelligence than what our own forces have.

It is time to accept one of the basic assumptions held by the Bush administration, and many of its critics, no longer applies: More troops do not mean more security in Iraq. Despite 150,000 boots on the ground and tactical victories in Fallujah and elsewhere, the insurgency is only growing in size and lethal capacity. It may have been possible at one point in time to pacify Iraq with an overwhelming American force. Had we gone in with 700,000 troops like General Shinseki said we needed, perhaps the insurgency would not have developed. We will never know for sure. But whatever chance we had is now gone.

Ramping up our troop presence now will not turn the tables in Iraq, and it will probably make the situation worse. The undeniable fact is that the insurgency is being fueled by the very presence of the American military. Back in July of 2003, General John Abizaid called Iraq a "classic guerrilla war," but we have continued to wage war as if we were fighting a conventional army.

The result has been the "center of gravity" of any counterinsurgency, the civilian population, has moved further and further away from us. The growing hostility is palpable in Iraq. It is measured by polls taken of Iraqis by our own government and our own State Department. In November 2003, only 11 percent of Iraqis said they would feel safer if coalition forces left; 6 months later, 55 percent did. In the most recent poll that asked the question, 2 percent viewed the United States as liberators, and 92 percent viewed the United States as occupiers.

Iraqis have grown tired of an occupation that has provided them neither security nor meaningful sovereignty. Iraqis were apprehensive of America's intentions to begin with, and every time President Bush signals our forces will remain in Iraq "for as long as it takes," it reconfirms their suspicion that we intend a permanent presence. Every time Iraqi citizens see a Bradley fighting vehicle rolling through their streets or a Black Hawk helicopter overhead, it undermines our assertion that Iraq is already sovereign. Every time Iraqi bystanders are killed in coalition actions, it further erodes the goodwill we earned by ridding them of Saddam Hussein.

And even when innocent Iraqis are murdered by insurgents, the United States is blamed for failing to provide security. If the world's most potent Army cannot make the streets safe, Iraqis are asking, what is it that they are really here for?

So the first step in achieving stability in Iraq is recognizing that the United States presence there has become inherently destabilizing. We also need to recognize the fact that for the

most part we are fighting not foreign terrorists or former regime loyalists, but indigenous factions within Iraq who have united against us.

It is a native insurgency, fueled by a combination of volatile ingredients: a population of 25 million, 5 million of them Sunnis, with a median age of 19 years old; a jobless rate of 30 to 40 percent with pockets of extreme unemployment; 400,000 skilled and experienced army soldiers dispersed throughout the country with their weapons but without their salaries or pensions; 4,000 shoulder-fired missiles left over from the old regime; and 250,000 tons of unsecured explosives.

□ 2030

The insurgency's size and strength are unlikely to decrease any time soon. Attempting to kill or capture every last insurgent is an impossible task. And as long as that is the thrust of our strategy, we will continue along a downward spiral.

Confronted with a growing native insurgency, America is left with three options, and two of them are not really options at all. The first one is to withdraw immediately. Given the current state of Iraqi security forces, we cannot cut and run. This option is a non-starter. Even if you believe that the United States should never have entered Iraq, it does not follow that we should leave now. The chaos that would result would be much worse than the vacuum of authority left by the downfall of Saddam, and the humanitarian consequences could be even greater.

From a strategic standpoint, immediate withdrawal undermines America's credibility and destabilizes the entire region. The second option is to stay on the same path, as the President says, for as long as it takes. I believe that this course of action would only cause the problem to grow worse. As of May of 2003, the administration was predicting that only 30,000 troops would remain in Iraq by the fall of that year. Twenty months later, five times that many remain. The most compelling reason not to continue down the same path is that the occupation has become counterproductive to stability and progress in Iraq. With United States forces serving as a focal point for tensions and violence, factions within Iraq have turned against us when they should be confronting each other peacefully in setting up a new Iraqi Government. The indefinite U.S. presence is forestalling the political compromises that are ultimately necessary to end the violence in Iraq.

I am proposing a third option, an option that Prime Minister Alawi and President Bush announce a timetable for a phased drawdown of U.S. forces in Iraq. This could be done in concert either with Prime Minister Alawi in Iraq with President Bush or with the new Prime Minister who will be elected after these elections. Changing the dynamic in Iraq means handing the secu-

rity of the Iraqi people back to the Iraqis and bringing an end to the occupation. Under this proposal, the United States would draw down the majority of our forces by the end of this year. Only a small and mobile force would remain by mid-2006, 2 years after the transfer of sovereignty.

Announcing a timetable for a phased-in withdrawal over the next 12 to 18 months will change the underlying dynamic in Iraq in several ways. First, it would help win the support of the Iraqi people for a political process and a government untainted by the appearance that the United States controls them. Second, announcing a drawdown would splinter insurgent groups who have set aside their own differences in order to unite against the United States. Foreign jihadists, Sunni nationalists, and Shiite extremists have little in common except their opposition to the United States' presence in Iraq.

Third, a timetable for withdrawal would encourage the Iraqi Government and the factions within Iraq to deal with each other rather than relying on American troops to make the sacrifices. A withdrawal could be structured in such a way as to create incentives for violent factions within Iraq to come to the negotiating table rather than engaging in armed insurrection.

Fourth, renouncing any long-term presence in Iraq would enhance America's legitimacy throughout the world. It would be the first step in putting the division that we have had with our allies behind us so we can focus on the war on terror. Fifth, the central political question in Iraq is not whether the United States should leave, but how soon. The politics in Iraq are such that the incoming government, no matter who is elected, will demand that the United States withdraw as soon as it is confident of its own survival. The fact that 70 to 80 percent of the Iraqi people do not want us there makes it clear, if elections determine who is in power in Iraq, whoever is elected Prime Minister will want to work with the United States to set up a timetable for a withdrawal.

Finally, a timetable for withdrawal would be that light at the end of the tunnel for our military which has been severely overstretched and unfairly deployed. While in Iraq, I met with many of our soldiers and Marines. Their spirits are high. Morale is strong. They are prepared for any mission. But they and their families want a reasonable expectation of when this mission will end. From a standpoint of readiness, a phased drawdown in Iraq would forestall what could otherwise soon become a recruiting and retention crisis in the Armed Forces.

We can withdraw the vast majority of our forces in Iraq by the end of this year under a realistic plan. This is not a cut and run strategy, but a phased drawdown that would leave a small, mobile and low-profile U.S. presence in Iraq for a reasonable time frame in agreement with the new Iraqi Govern-

ment. This smaller contingent of approximately 30,000 troops could continue to fill specialty roles, such as training Iraqi forces and engaging in quick strikes against insurgent or terrorist infrastructures that minimize the risk of civilian casualties. A smaller, more remote presence would not patrol Iraqi cities or streets, but it would be enough to prevent outbreaks of civil warfare.

Two factors will allow Iraq to move forward while our troops come home. First, our highest priority must be on training high-quality Iraqi security forces. It must be our number one priority. For too long, the Bush administration assumed that Americans would bear an indefinite burden of security in Iraq. But lasting security can only be provided by Iraqis. In the words of President Bush, ultimately the success in Iraq is going to be the willingness of the Iraqi citizens to fight for their own freedom. With the United States providing an open-ended guarantee for security, there is little urgency for Iraqis opposed to the insurgency to take charge and to fight it.

In addition, the training program was set back for months by a focus on quantity over quality. A couple weeks' training is clearly not enough. One of the reasons why there were problems with our policy on training in the beginning was that we would train Iraqi soldiers for 2 weeks and then send them out into battle and oftentimes many of those Iraqi soldiers when faced with the violence of an insurgency would run away or, in some instances, join the insurgency.

While I was in Iraq, I met with General Petraeus and surveyed the training of Iraqi security forces. General Petraeus gets it. He knows that to fight a sophisticated insurgency, these Iraqis will need to be highly skilled. Despite the rocky start, the training program is moving forward. I believe 12 to 18 months is enough time to train Iraqi security forces with the skills they will need to confront the insurgency.

As important as training Iraqi security forces is, creating jobs for Iraqis is also important. It is outrageous that of the \$22 billion that Congress has committed to Iraq reconstruction, only \$4 billion has actually been spent. And a huge percentage of that \$4 billion has gone to provide security for foreign contractors. When General Petraeus took the 101st Airborne into Mosul, he used riches from Saddam's palaces to keep Iraqi soldiers on the payroll. He invested in local reconstruction projects that put people to work immediately. It was one of the reasons that Mosul was relatively quiet for so long. It may not be a model of free market capitalism, but it is a model for success in a country that is desperate for jobs. It is worth replicating. As the United States begins to reduce our military involvement in Iraq, our investment in Iraq's reconstruction must endure.

Last week, President Bush spoke eloquently about America's special responsibility to spread freedom around the globe, but his inaugural address did not include a single mention of the actual war we are fighting, the war that 150,000 of our servicemen and -women are fighting every day in one of the most volatile and violent places on Earth. In the realm of rhetoric and abstraction, President Bush has clearly defined ideas about the struggle for human freedom, but his policy for Iraq has not yet included a clear path for when or how we will leave.

Our national conversation about Iraq needs more realism. It needs more focus on the future rather than on the past. We need to refocus on our original goal, a stable Iraq that does not threaten its neighbors, develop weapons of mass destruction, export terrorism, or terrorize and murder its own people. Hard experience and tragedy have taught us that prolonged military occupation in Iraq will not end the insurgency, will not stabilize Iraq or bring us closer to our strategic goals. It will only cause more casualties and more hatred toward America within Iraq and beyond. Iraqis want freedom, and they also want control over their daily lives and their country's future. The best hopes for a stable, peaceful Iraq are achieved by making it clear to the Iraqis that the occupation is not indefinite and that soon they will bear the burden of creating a responsible, democratic state.

Iraq's political development is occurring on a clearly defined timetable. Elections will be held this Sunday; a constitution drafted by August 15; an election to ratify that constitution by October 15; new elections by December of this year; and a permanent government in place by the end of December. Iraq needs a similar timetable for taking responsibility for its own security. By laying out a timetable for a phased-down withdrawal, the United States sends a clear message to Iraqis, and all citizens of the world, that we believe Iraq is capable of governing itself and making decisions about its future.

The removal of Saddam Hussein was a victory for the United States, but lasting success in Iraq will not be achieved until the country is stable and American soldiers have the opportunity to come home and be with their families. I believe adopting a strategy of phased-down withdrawal is the only course of action for the United States, and I would hope that the Members of the Congress of the United States would engage in this very important policy issue and have an influence on the direction this country takes in the weeks and months ahead.

CHALLENGES TO OUR FREEDOMS AND RIGHTS HERE AT HOME

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MIKE ROGERS of Alabama). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, the gentleman from Louisiana

(Mr. JINDAL) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. JINDAL. Mr. Speaker, this month, this year started off as potentially a great month, a great year for democracy and for freedom. The President gave a soaring speech about spreading freedom and liberty across the world. We have elections coming for the first time to the people of Iraq.

Yet even despite this optimism and this hope, there are also serious challenges to our freedoms and our rights right here at home. Tonight I want to speak about both those opportunities and those challenges. We have got opportunity in Iraq with free elections. We have got threats here at home with frivolous lawsuits threatening our freedoms, threatening our way of life. We have got threats here at home with recent IRS rulings and decisions threatening the ability of homeowners to keep their homes, to live in their homes. Finally, we have threats here at home threatening the ability of people across the wonderful State of California from enjoying the great oysters from my home State of Louisiana.

Just today, I want to start first with the threat of frivolous lawsuits and the threat that poses to our way of life. In today's news, we find that a Federal appellate court has reinstated a lawsuit against the McDonald's restaurant, against the McDonald's chain. For those of you not familiar with this lawsuit, it was brought in New York by a family claiming that McDonald's restaurant should be responsible for the fact that their children have eaten too much of McDonald's food.

□ 2045

I am a parent. I have got two beautiful young children, a 3-year-old girl and a little 9-month-old boy. My little 3-year-old girl enjoys McDonald's. She likes eating out. She likes the playground as much as the food. And it is my job, it is her mother's job, it is both of our jobs to make sure that our daughter eats a balanced meal. We would never in a million years think of blaming another, think of bringing a lawsuit against a restaurant for the fact that our daughter eats too many chicken McNuggets or too many French fries.

In my mind this is just one more example of frivolous lawsuits, one more example of how frivolous lawsuits can actually erode our freedoms, our liberties, our economic rights. If this lawsuit in particular and frivolous lawsuits in general are allowed to stand, I fear that we will not have freedoms that we take for granted, the freedoms to go our favorite restaurants, the freedoms to open and operate small businesses, the freedoms to earn a living.

In today's newspaper as well, from today's Wall Street Journal, I want to share with this House, all the way from Europe and Ireland they talk about curbing the "American disease." I put that in quotes, "American disease."

They are not talking about our agricultural products. They are not talking about some kind of new biological threat. They are talking about personal injury lawsuits. Today in the Wall Street Journal, on the front page of the B section, they talk about the fact that litigation has been booming in Europe. Indeed, the nickname in some circles is the "American disease." They talk about a restaurant owner, Pat McDonagh, who is worried about the fact that American-style lawsuits are coming to Ireland. In his restaurant he actually videotaped an adolescent customer pouring water on the floor in the restroom in one of his restaurants so that he could pretend to fall and sue the restaurant owner.

In Ireland they have put in place several reforms. They have put in place a mandatory arbitration panel without involving lawyers, where plaintiffs and defendants can go and argue their case. Both of them still maintain the right to go to court after this arbitration panel. But already despite the fact they have got one of the highest concentrations of attorneys per people, already with some of these reforms, they are beginning to see real results.

In Europe, again quoting from the Wall Street Journal, they said the Republic of Ireland was the Texas of Europe in terms of litigation before the new reforms. The Republic of Ireland was the Texas of Europe. I do not think this is an export we want to become known for. I do not think we want to brag about the fact we are exporting our legal system, our lawsuits to other corners of the world.

In Ireland the number of personal injury claims dropped 20 percent, 20 percent, this year after they adopted these reforms. Liability insurance rates for both government and private employers also dropped 40 percent last year alone. Auto insurance premiums are back to where they were in 1999. It is not just Ireland. The UK has also introduced reforms to cut down the cost of litigation in civil claims courts. In France they are trying to slow down the runaway costs of medical malpractice insurance.

Going back to Mr. McDonagh, going back to Ireland, not only did he see an adolescent stage a fall, he also saw a young pregnant woman with her husband also apparently stage a fall in his restaurant. That adolescent tried to file a 38,000 pound claim. When Mr. McDonagh went public with his evidence, went public with the proof that he had, not only was the adolescent reprimanded but many claims suddenly disappeared. After this video, after these reforms, they have seen the total liability claims, which in Ireland had been climbing at a rate of over 50 percent for the previous 3 years, finally begin to slow down. Insurance rates had tripled in 3 years, and finally they are beginning to see some relief. In Ireland legal fees and related costs account for almost half, 46 percent, of the awards in settlements. So this is

money that is not even going to legitimately injured customers.

The moral of this story: one, when Ireland adopted commonsense reforms, they saw insurance rates drop. They saw the number of claims being filed drop. They saw legal fees dropping. What we can learn from this case is with commonsense reforms, we can restore Americans' trust in our legal system. We can also make sure that we are not known across the world for exporting our legal system.

I am proud of the fact that the administration is introducing three commonsense reforms to reform our legal system, first, in the medical liability area; second, in the class action lawsuit reform area; and, third, in asbestos litigation.

First, let us start off talking a little bit about the need for reforms in class action lawsuits. These are an important part of our legal system. However, when they are abused, they truly harm not only the injured parties; they undermine our country's faith in our entire judicial system. When we look at the reforms that are being offered, first we need to understand the problems that we face. Right now the cost of litigation per person in the United States is far higher than in any other major industrialized nation. Let me repeat that. The cost of litigation per person in United States is far higher than any other industrialized nation. That is an important fact. These are countries we have to compete with economically. And as long as the cost of lawsuits and defending those lawsuits are higher here, that is like a hidden tax on every worker, on every consumer right here in America.

Lawsuit costs have risen substantially over the past several decades. A large portion of these costs are going to lawyers' fees, transaction costs, never even reaching injured parties. Small businesses spend on average about \$150,000 per year on litigation expenses alone. Looking at the medical liability area alone, we could save billions of dollars for American taxpayers. We could lower the cost of health care by billions of dollars just by adopting commonsense reforms.

These are the kinds of reforms that were adopted in my home State of Louisiana, adopted in California decades ago through Democratic legislatures, through bipartisan majorities. These are the kinds of reforms that can restore not only some sensibility to our legal system, save our taxpayers, save our health care patients billions of dollars. They can also make sure that injured patients are truly being compensated for their injuries. Frivolous lawsuits, excessive jury awards, are driving many health care providers out of communities, forcing doctors to practice overly defensive medicine.

In the neighboring State, in Mississippi, last year alone, they had a health care crisis. Many towns, many communities could not find doctors willing to deliver babies because of the

malpractice crisis right next door. They literally had doctors threatening to move across the border into Louisiana, setting up clinics and hospitals across the border to treat patients from Mississippi. Fortunately, they have taken some steps to reform their legal system. We still have a health care system in crisis. We still have many communities that do not have health care providers. Even those communities with health care providers often have to charge higher insurance premiums, higher health care costs thanks to frivolous lawsuits.

The President has proposed a very sensible plan. He allows unlimited compensation for true economic losses. He allows recoveries for noneconomic damages up to a reasonable amount. He allows punitive damages for the worst cases. He also makes sure that old cases cannot be brought to court several years after they have actually taken place. And, finally, he makes sure that defendants only pay judgments in proportion to their actual fault. If we listen carefully, patients will be able to collect their noneconomic damages; they would be able to collect reasonable punitive damages in the worst cases. We would make sure that defendants are only liable for what they caused, that we do not go searching for the deep pockets, we do not just go suing the first person we can find. We would make sure that the people that are hurt are truly compensated. At the same time we control the unnecessary costs, the frivolous lawsuits that are plaguing our health care system today.

The second reform that has been presented is truly reforming our class action system. We support class action reforms to limit the abuse of large nationwide class action cases to return justice to the truly injured parties. The current system, which is so abused, often does not benefit injured parties. It undermines our American judicial system. Often we have injured parties that receive awards with little or no value. They give us little coupons in the mail, while their attorneys receive large fees.

It makes sense to move these cases to the Federal system. And oftentimes we are involving interstate class action lawsuits. We are talking about cases that affect many citizens. We are talking about cases that involve more money, that involve interstate commerce issues. It makes sense that these cases should be heard in a Federal court. This does not alter in one way the right of a plaintiff to bring a legitimate claim to court. So in addition to protecting our physicians, protecting our health care system from frivolous lawsuits, we also need to do more to revamp our current class action system.

Finally, the third piece of tort reform, frivolous lawsuit reform, that has been proposed is fixing our asbestos litigation system. We need to help those workers that have truly been injured with a fairer system and a long-

term solution. The current system leaves little or no funds to pay current and future asbestos victims. Already we have bankrupted over 74 companies. My concern is those that were truly injured, there will be no funds left for them, and in the meantime we will destroy several companies rather than truly compensating those that have been injured.

I think that the frivolous lawsuits and out-of-control legal system can pose a very serious threat to America's freedoms, can pose a very serious threat to the American Dream. We are a country of economic opportunity. We are a country where small business owners can create a better quality of life by serving their customers. We need to preserve the risk-taking, the entrepreneurial spirit that not only makes America great, makes America a beacon of hope and opportunity for people all over the world, but also makes sure that not only we but our children have jobs, make sure that their economic growth continues unabated.

These three reforms are necessary, in the medical malpractice, in the class action area, and then finally in the asbestos area, to make sure that we restore some reason to our legal system, to make sure that we truly compensate those that have been injured, those that have been injured through others' neglect, but at the same time we do not punish honest business people, we do not punish physicians trying to provide high-quality medical care, we do not engage in frivolous lawsuits, we do not perpetuate a lottery-style system.

A second topic I would like to talk about to the Members of the House today is that, now that we have talked about one of the challenges facing us here at home, I would like to talk about an opportunity abroad. And if the Members will permit me, I would like to quote from our President's inaugural address, just a few lines from that stirring speech where he talked about the hope, the freedom, the principles of democracy being spread across the world. I would like to quote from what our President said on that cold morning: "We have seen our vulnerability, and we have seen its deepest source. For as long as whole regions of the world simmer in resentment and tyranny, prone to ideologies that feed hatred and excuse murder, violence will gather and multiply in destructive power and cross the most defended borders and raise a mortal threat. There is only one force of history that can break the reign of hatred and resentment and expose the pretensions of tyrants and reward the hopes of the decent and tolerant, and that is the force of human freedom."

Our President went on to say: "We are led by events and common sense to one conclusion: the survival of liberty in our land increasingly depends on the success of liberty in other lands. The best hope for peace in our world is an expansion of freedom in all the world."

The President then later in his remarks and as he was talking about how our national interests coincide with the basic principles upon which this country was founded, our national interests lie in promoting freedom and democracy to the peoples of the world. But he goes on to caution: "This is not primarily the task of arms, though we will defend ourselves and our friends by force of arms when necessary. Freedom, by its nature, must be chosen and defended by citizens, and sustained by the rule of law and the protection of minorities. And when the soul of a nation finally speaks, the institutions that arise may reflect customs and traditions very different from our own. America will not impose our own style of government on the unwilling. Our goal instead is to help others find their own voice, attain their own freedom, and make their own way."

As I think about the President's remarks, I think in particular of the situation in Iraq. And I want to share just one last line from the President before I talk further about what is happening in Iraq. Our President went on to say: "Some, I know, have questioned the global appeal of liberty, though this time in history, 4 decades defined by the swiftest advance of freedom ever seen, is an odd time for doubt. Americans, of all people, should never be surprised by the power of our ideals. Eventually, the call of freedom comes to every mind and every soul. We do not accept the existence of permanent tyranny because we do not accept the possibility of permanent slavery. Liberty will come to those who love it."

When I listened to those remarkable words, when I listened to the President's inaugural address, I thought what a wonderful role America has to play. It is not our job to be the policemen of the world. The President was very quick to say this is not primarily a matter of arms, but it is a matter of spreading hope and standing on the side of those fighting for freedom and democracy across the world. Not only is it the right thing to do, and it is, but it also is the best way to secure America's safety.

There is a little girl back at home in Louisiana that gets this, and before I share with the Members what she has to say, I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX).

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise to discuss an issue of great importance to the citizens of the Fifth District of North Carolina. We are deeply concerned about the skyrocketing costs of medical malpractice insurance because it is limiting access to quality and affordable health care all over western North Carolina, but particularly in the rural portions. The escalating cost of health care is a major concern in the fifth district.

□ 2100

Just 2 weeks ago, I held meetings with community leaders in all 12 counties in my district. The issue of the ris-

ing cost of medical insurance was raised at each and every meeting. After all, the American Medical Association has determined that North Carolina is one of 19 States in the country that is currently identified as a "crisis" State.

Due to an onslaught of frivolous lawsuits, our physicians are being forced to pay exorbitant premiums on their liability insurance. The rates have risen so high that many family practitioners and OB-GYNs are being forced to retire early or simply go out of business. Doctors are refusing to deliver babies or perform surgery because they are afraid of being sued. That is especially a problem in our rural communities, where many doctors are sole practitioners.

Just as alarming, our medical school enrollments are on the decline, which will limit the health care available to our future generations.

Recently, I spent 2 days with medical professionals in my district. According to the experts in the medical community of Forsyth County, there was at least a 20 to 40 percent increase last year in medical malpractice insurance premiums. The biggest impact, again, was felt in the specialty fields like OB-GYN, emergency medicine and surgery.

What is happening across North Carolina is that doctors are no longer going into specialized fields like obstetrics. This is short-changing the people of the Fifth District, because it is limiting access to the health care specialists they need. We must remember that this is an issue that affects everyone, not just doctors.

In early 2003, with the backing of the Bush administration, the U.S. House of Representatives moved quickly to address medical liability reform by passing H.R. 5, the HEALTH Act, Help Efficient, Accessible, Low-Cost, Timely Health Care. Unfortunately, the U.S. Senate failed to pass this meaningful and important legislation. I look forward to the debate this year in the House.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues in the House and Senate to address this health care crisis. We need to enact meaningful medical malpractice reform. My priority is that the citizens of Fifth District of North Carolina and all across the Nation have continued access to quality, affordable health care.

Mr. JINDAL. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, I want to thank my colleague for making the point and reiterating the point how important it is to defend our freedoms at home, even as we are fighting to defend freedoms abroad.

As I was saying, the President in his stirring inaugural remarks talked about the importance of spreading freedom across the world; not only that it is consistent with our highest ideals, our goals, our principles, but also as an effective means of defending America's freedoms here at home.

I want to share this with you. There is a little girl back in my district that

understands it. The story in our local paper opens with a quote that says, "They fight for us."

"Four-year-old Katelyn Swansen is talking about her heroes, the American troops fighting overseas in Iraq. It seems like a big statement coming from a very little girl's mouth, but she says it with pride as she shows off the poster she made to send to the troops."

I am going to read a little bit from this article.

Her pre-K teacher at the local YMCA has taught not only little Katelyn, but also her 12 classmates, to know all about what it means to be an American and about the sacrifices the American troops are making in Iraq. These kids, they may not be able to say "patriotism," they may not even know what it means, but they are practicing being good Americans.

The words may seem jumbled, they may not be pronounced correctly, but when they say the Pledge of Allegiance, they say it with pride, they say it from their heart.

On a blackboard behind them, the words say, "The YMCA Supports our Troops USA," and there is a flag. And on Ms. Restivo's desk, that is the teacher, there is a small picture of her stepson, who is a private first class.

Seth Restivo is a member of the U.S. Army National Guard. He is currently deployed to Iraq. The kids have made a stack of posters to send to his unit and made handprints on the posters. The teachers wrote on these handprints, "These small hands support our troops in a big way."

A poster was also made using handprints from Seth's 4-year-old son Triston, who also attends that same YMCA childcare center in Covington.

Ms. Restivo says her son signed up to be in the National Guard when he was only 16. He is now 19. He left for boot camp as soon as he graduated from high school in May 2004. He left for Iraq a week before Christmas. He is currently in Baghdad, spending most of his time cleaning weapons. He has been deployed for 10 months.

She says it is important for her students, even though they are too young to learn about the soldiers who are fighting for their freedom, she says it is important that they know about America and about the true heroes. It is important for them to learn about what is going on for our country.

Those posters will be mailed to her stepson. I think 4-year-old Katelyn and I think her classmates truly understand what it means to be American. I think they truly understand the sacrifices being made by our brave men and women in uniform, being made overseas to defend our way of life and also to help the Iraqi people to find freedom.

On January 30th, an historic day is approaching us as, for the first time in decades, after decades of dictatorship and oppression, the Iraqi people will be finally be able in a free election to decide their own freedom.

Back in December, the International Republican Institute did a survey that showed over 67 percent of Iraqis supported going forth with the elections as scheduled, over 67 percent. According to their own independent election committee, over 7,000 candidates representing 75 political entities, 27 organizations and 9 coalitions plan to participate in the National Assembly elections, over 7,400 candidates.

These elections should reflect the will of the Iraqi people. They should lay the groundwork for the drafting of a constitution that represents the will of the Iraqi people and embraces freedom and democracy, and, finally, to result in a representative government committed to peace, stability and democracy. These are our hopes, these are our goals.

Now, can we in America guarantee what happens after these elections? Certainly there is no guarantee. But what we can know, what we can do is this: We can give the Iraqi people the best chance they have got for stability, for peace, for freedom. We can give them the best chance that entire region has by allowing these elections to proceed.

It will be up to the Iraqi people after these elections take place to decide for themselves. We are not able to impose order externally. What we are able to do is turn over, with time, turn over as quickly as we can, the responsibility for the safety back to Iraqi forces. Over 120,000 forces of varying kinds have been trained.

You have got not only the national elections, but in local elections you have got over 111 political entities that have submitted candidate lists. You have 256 political entities composed of almost 19,000 candidates registered to compete in the 20 different elections.

You see just the birth of democracy in that country. Is it perfect? No. Are there challenges? Absolutely. But what we are witnessing is an historic moment, an important moment for the Iraqi people, an important moment for that entire region.

Now, again, America cannot force its will on another country. We cannot force the Iraqi people to live in peace, or we cannot force upon them a stable democracy. What we can do by giving them these elections is give them the opportunity to take that responsibility for themselves. What we can do by transferring the responsibility of security back to trained Iraqi forces is to make sure they have the best chance for a peaceful future. That is good for the Iraqi people. That is also good, however, for the entire region and also for the American people.

I have talked today about the threats to freedom at home, I have talked about the opportunity to spread freedom across the world. I also want to talk in closing about two additional threats to freedoms right here in America, and in particular threats that impact the people of Louisiana.

The first threat I want to talk to you about concerns a bill that I am filing

tomorrow. This is a bill about people, the Disaster Prevention Protection Act of 2005.

My State and many States have properties that are subject to flooding, and because of this problem, FEMA has got a program, flood mitigation grant program, that has been in place for several years. These grants have been given out in my State in particular for the last 10 years, but there has been a similar program literally in place for decades.

These grants are given to people after a disaster hits or to prevent a future disaster from hitting. They are designed to save the Federal Government money. Instead of allowing homes to flood repeatedly, the Federal Government, in partnership with local homeowners, acts to prevent the worst floods, acts to prevent the worst floods damage from happening.

The grants are 75 percent from the Federal Government, 25 percent from the private homeowner. The States work with local municipalities, so there is a State component as well. Over the last 3 years, this has benefited literally dozens, hundreds of families, in Louisiana. We are talking about approximately \$8 million.

This is a program that has worked well, but here is the challenge: Eighteen months ago the IRS changed how these grants were considered. The grant is now going to be considered as income. The result is we are now forcing families in the higher tax brackets. We are talking about families who were never told these grants would be considered taxable income when they got this money in the first place. So now you have the awful situations where people may be forced to sell their homes to pay the taxes on the grants that they received to save their homes in the first place.

I think this is a tragedy, and one that would be very simple to fix. That is why tomorrow I am filing my very first piece of legislation to address this problem.

This sounds like a theoretical problem. We are talking about 500 homes. But I want to give you three specific examples to show what I am talking.

In Slidell, Louisiana, we have a family whose home was damaged again during two hurricanes, Hurricane Isadore and Hurricane Lili. It has been substantially damaged. The challenge the owner of this home has, she is eligible to receive and received one of these Federal grants. However, she has a son who is now injured and is now a paraplegic. He is going to college on a Pell grant. If she has to pay Federal income tax on her grant, not only will her son lose his grant, he may very well have to drop out of college.

I will give you a second case. We have a 67-year-old widow living in Slidell, Louisiana, in a home her husband built for her many, many years ago. Her only income is Social Security. Her home is substantially damaged, and she is actually in a rental property

right now. She has saved every penny and used all of her savings to participate in the FEMA program, to come up with the matching funds, her 25 percent. Her plans are finally completed, she is ready to go back and construct and repair her home, but now she is afraid. She is afraid to start, because she cannot afford to pay the taxes.

Her house has been sitting empty for 2 years in substantially damaged condition. It continues to deteriorate. If she is not allowed to participate in this program, she will have to sell her home to pay the taxes on the grant. She will lose the home that her husband built for her.

Finally, a third example. We have a family of five whose home was declared substantially damaged, again after Hurricanes Isadore and Lili. The primary homeowner is now disabled, and they are now also in a rental unit. One of their children is receiving a Pell grant for college.

If they are forced to pay Federal taxes on their grant, not only will they lose their Pell grant, they are looking at not only the loss of their home, but they are worried they may have to file for bankruptcy protection.

To me, this is the worst kind of tragedy. We are adding insult to injury. We are talking about families that have already been hurt through a natural disaster. We as the Federal Government have tried to help them recover and to avoid future losses.

To come in now, after the fact, to try to impose an income tax after the fact I think does serious harm not only to their personal finances, but to their liberties, their ability to live in their own homes, to own their own homes. For their sake and for the sake of many families that may find themselves in a similar situation, I hope this House will pass this legislation.

Finally, the final threat to our freedoms at home that I would like to talk about today, we in Louisiana are proud of the fact that we are home to some of the world's finest seafood. I know many people in this House and across the country watching tonight have enjoyed our shrimp, have enjoyed crawfish. You have probably also enjoyed our oysters.

This week we are celebrating in Washington Mardi Gras. Many people will be eating Louisiana's fine oysters this week. To this House, I want to make sure that we free the American people, we allow the good people of the Great State of California to enjoy the freedom of also partaking in Louisiana's oysters. I call upon the good Governor of California to lift the ban and allow Louisiana's oysters to be consumed in California so they might not be deprived of this valuable commodity.

It has been my privilege, Mr. Speaker, to address this House, to talk about the opportunities to spread democracy and freedom across the world; the excitement of watching the Iraqi people participate in their first free election

in decades. A perfect election, no; an historic election, yes; and one filled with great promise and potential for the future.

I have also talked today about the threats we face to our future right here at home, through frivolous lawsuits, what we can do to address that. Just today we found out that McDonald's is yet again going to court to defend itself from the claims of a family who ate too much McDonald's food and now wants to blame the restaurant.

We also heard from my colleague today from North Carolina, also talking about the threat of frivolous lawsuits and the threat that we may lose doctors in our most underserved communities.

We also talked about the threat to that most important property right in America, the right to own one's home, posed by a recent IRS ruling.

And finally, not to trivialize it, but finally the threat being faced by those communities who may not have access to Louisiana's fine seafood.

CORRECTION TO THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2005, AT PAGE H140

OMISSION FROM THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF THURSDAY JANUARY 6, 2005, AT PAGE H129

The tellers delivered to the President of the Senate the following statement of results.

JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS FOR THE COUNTING OF THE ELECTORAL VOTES FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, OFFICIAL TALLY

The undersigned, TRENT LOTT and TIM JOHNSON, tellers on the part of the Senate, ROBERT W. NEY and JOHN B. LARSON of Connecticut, tellers on the part of the House of Representatives, report the following as the result of the ascertainment and counting of the electoral vote for President and Vice President of the United States for the term beginning on the Twentieth day of January, two thousand and five.

Electoral votes of each State	For President			For Vice President	
	George W. Bush	John F. Kerry	John Edwards	Dick Cheney	John Edwards
Alabama—9	9			9	
Alaska—3	3			3	
Arizona—10	10			10	
Arkansas—6	6			6	
California—55		55			55
Colorado—9	9			9	
Connecticut—7		7			7
Delaware—3		3			3
District of Columbia—3		3			3
Florida—27	27			27	
Georgia—15	15			15	
Hawaii—4		4			4
Idaho—4	4			4	
Illinois—21		21			21
Indiana—11	11			11	
Iowa—7	7			7	
Kansas—6	6			6	
Kentucky—8	8			8	
Louisiana—9	9			9	
Maine—4		4			4
Maryland—10		10			10
Massachusetts—12		12			12
Michigan—17		17			17
Minnesota—10		9	1		10
Mississippi—6	6			6	
Missouri—11	11			11	

Electoral votes of each State	For President			For Vice President	
	George W. Bush	John F. Kerry	John Edwards	Dick Cheney	John Edwards
Montana—3	3			3	
Nebraska—5	5			5	
Nevada—5	5			5	
New Hampshire—4		4			4
New Jersey—15		15			15
New Mexico—5	5			5	
New York—31		31			31
North Carolina—15	15			15	
North Dakota—3	3			3	
Ohio—20	20			20	
Oklahoma—7	7			7	
Oregon—7		7			7
Pennsylvania—21		21			21
Rhode Island—4		4			4
South Carolina—8	8			8	
South Dakota—3	3			3	
Tennessee—11	11			11	
Texas—34	34			34	
Utah—5	5			5	
Vermont—3		3			3
Virginia—13	13			13	
Washington—11		11			11
West Virginia—5	5			5	
Wisconsin—10		10			10
Wyoming—3	3			3	
Total—538 ..	286	251	1	286	252

TRENT LOTT,

TIM JOHNSON,

Tellers on the part of the Senate.

ROBERT W. NEY,

JOHN B. LARSON,

Tellers on the part of the House of Representatives.

The state of the vote for President of the United States, as delivered to the President of the Senate, is as follows:

The whole number of the electors appointed to vote for President of the United States is 538, of which a majority is 270.

George W. Bush, of the State of Texas, has received for President of the United States 286 votes;

JOHN F. KERRY, of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, has received 251 votes;

JOHN EDWARDS, of the State of North Carolina, has received 1 vote.

The state of the vote for Vice President of the United States, as delivered to the President of the Senate, is as follows:

The whole number of the electors appointed to vote for Vice President of the United States is 538, of which a majority is 270.

DICK CHENEY, of the State of Wyoming, has received for Vice President of the United States 286 votes;

JOHN EDWARDS, of the State of North Carolina, has received 252 votes;

This announcement of the state of the vote by the President of the Senate shall be deemed a sufficient declaration of the persons elected President and Vice President of the United States, each for the term beginning on the twentieth day of January, two thousand and five and shall be entered, together with the list of the votes, on the Journals of the Senate and House of Representatives.

Note: The certificate from the State of Minnesota reflected that one electoral cast ballots for JOHN EDWARDS, of the State of North Carolina, for both President and Vice President.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Ms. BERKLEY (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and January 26 on account of official business—congressional delegation to Poland.

Ms. ESHOO (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for January 6.

Mr. ISRAEL (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and January 26 on account of official business.

Mr. LANTOS (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and January 26 on account of official business.

Mrs. BONO (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today and the balance of the week on account of illness.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today and January 26 on account of a family emergency.

Mr. EHLERS (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today and the balance of the week on account of illness.

Mr. FOLEY (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today and the balance of the week on account of illness in the family.

Mr. MCCOTTER (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today and the balance of the week on account of his leading a congressional delegation to the 60th anniversary of liberation of Auschwitz.

Mr. ROHRBACHER (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today and the balance of the week on account of illness.

Mr. WAMP (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today on account of family reasons.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. PALLONE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CUELLAR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BLUMENAUER, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. STRICKLAND, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MALONEY, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. GOHMERT) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. RAMSTAD, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. OSBORNE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MURPHY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WOLF, for 5 minutes, January 26.

Mr. WELDON of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. NUSSLE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GOHMERT, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. EDWARDS, for 5 minutes, today.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

Ms. KAPTUR and to include extraneous material, notwithstanding the fact that it exceeds two pages of the RECORD and is estimated by the Public Printer to cost \$3,224.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. JINDAL. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 15 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, January 26, 2005, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

199. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Multiple Chemicals; Extension of Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions [OPP-2004-0392; FRL-7688-6] received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

200. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — *Bacillus pumilus* GB34; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [OPP-2004-0175; FRL-7382-6] received December 17, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

201. A letter from the Deputy Commandant for Installations and Logistics, USMC, Department of Defense, transmitting Notice of decision to convert the Real Property Management and Grounds Maintenance functions at Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina to contractor performance, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2461; to the Committee on Armed Services.

202. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Housing — Federal Housing Commissioner, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting results of a study on housing needs of grandparent-headed and relative-headed families, pursuant to (117 Stat. 2691); to the Committee on Financial Services.

203. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Housing — Federal Housing Commissioner, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Federal Housing Administration's Annual Report On Initiatives to Address Management Deficiencies Identified in the Audit of FHA's FY 2002 and 2003 Financial Statements; to the Committee on Financial Services.

204. A letter from the Chairperson, National Council on Disability, transmitting a copy of the NCD's "National Disability Policy: A Progress Report," as required by Section 401(b)(1) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, covering the period from December 2002 through December 2003; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

205. A letter from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, transmitting a report, entitled "Activities and Expenditures of the Independent Television Service (ITVS) for

FY 2003," pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 396(k)(3)(iii)(v); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

206. A letter from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, transmitting a report, entitled "Public Broadcasting and The Needs of Minority and Diverse Audiences and Public Broadcasting's Services to Minorities and Other Groups," dated December 2004, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 396(m)(2); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

207. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; New York State Implementation Plan Revision [Region 2 Docket No. R02-OAR-2004-NY-0001; FRL-7852-5] received January 12, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

208. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — New York: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revision [FRL-7857-8] received January 12, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

209. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Pennsylvania; Revision to the 1-Hour Ozone Maintenance Plan for the Pittsburgh-Beaver Valley Area to Reflect the Use of MOBILE6 [PA217-4232; FRL-7845-6] received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

210. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Minnesota; Minneapolis-St. Paul Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Plan Update [R05-OAR-2004-MN-0002; FRL-7846-7] received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

211. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; New York State Implementation Plan Revision; 1-Hour Ozone Control Program [Region 2 Docket No. NY70-279, FRL-7845-8] received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

212. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants; Delegation of Authority to Louisiana [R06-OAR-2004-LA-0001; FRL-7847-8] received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

213. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — North Carolina: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revision [FRL-7847-9] received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

214. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Control of VOC Emissions from Yeast Manufacturing; Correction [MD170-3113a; FRL-7851-5] received December 17, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

215. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection

Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Michigan: Oxides of Nitrogen [R05-OAR-2004-MI-0002; FRL-7849-1] received December 17, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

216. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Availability of Federally-Enforceable State Implementation Plans for All States [FRL-7852-2] received December 17, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

217. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to the Arizona State Implementation Plan, Maricopa County Environmental Services Department; Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, South Coast Air Quality Management District; Disapproval of State Implementation Plan Revisions, Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District [AZ 134-082, CA 250-0453, CA 310-0465; FRL-7847-6] received December 17, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

218. A letter from the Chairman, Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board, transmitting the second report of 2004, as required by the Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 1987, Public Law 100-203, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 10268; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

219. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by section 401(c) of the National Emergency Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process that was declared in Executive Order 12947 of January 23, 1995; to the Committee on International Relations.

220. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, a six-month periodic report of the national emergency with respect to the Western Balkans that was declared in Executive Order 13219 of June 26, 2001; to the Committee on International Relations.

221. A letter from the Deputy Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting as required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), and pursuant to Executive Order 13313 of July 31, 2003, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the risk of nuclear proliferation created by the accumulation of weapons-usable fissile material in the territory of the Russian Federation that was declared in Executive Order 13159 of June 21, 2000; to the Committee on International Relations.

222. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Labor, transmitting a report entitled "The International HIV/AIDS Workplace Program," submitted in accordance with the Conference Report of the FY 2004 Labor-HHS-Education appropriation; to the Committee on International Relations.

223. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report pursuant to Paragraph (5)(D) of the Senate's May

1997 resolution of advice and consent to the ratification of the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Treaty Flank Document of May 31, 1996; to the Committee on International Relations.

224. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a Memorandum of Justification for a Drawdown under Sections 652 and 506(a)(2) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, to support the Governments of Indonesia, Thailand, Sri Lanka, India, Maldives, Malaysia, Burma, Kenya, Somalia, Tanzania, Bangladesh, and Seychelles; to the Committee on International Relations.

225. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-566, "Prevention of Premature Release of Mentally Incompetent Defendants Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

226. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-567, "Retail Natural Gas Supplier Licensing and Consumer Protection Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

227. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-577, "Anesthesiologist Assistant Licensure Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

228. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-568, "Historic Preservation Process for Public Safety Facilities Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

229. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-578, "Property Management Reform Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

230. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-569, "Public Assistance Confidentiality of Information Temporary Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

231. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-528, "Fleeing Law Enforcement Prohibition Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

232. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-529, "Alcohol Beverage Penalty Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

233. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-530, "Gallery Place Project Graphics Temporary Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

234. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-571, "Contract No. DCFJ-2004-B-0031 (Delivery of Electrical Power and Ancillary Services) Exemption Temporary Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

235. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-531, "Unemployment

Compensation Pension Offset Reduction Temporary Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

236. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-572, "Distracted Driving Safety Revised Temporary Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

237. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-573, "Unclaimed Property Demutualization Proceeds Technical Correction Amendment Temporary Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

238. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-532, "Juvenile Justice Temporary Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

239. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-574, "Fiscal Year 2004 Year-End State Aid Re-Allocation Temporary Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

240. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-563, "Pedestrian Protection Right-of-Way at Crosswalks Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

241. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-575, "Unemployment Compensation Funds Appropriation Authorization Temporary Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

242. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-564, "Miscellaneous Vehicles Helmet Safety Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

243. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-576, "Housing and Community Development Reform Advisory Commission Extension Temporary Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

244. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-565, "District of Columbia Statefood Delegation Fund Commission Establishment and Tax Check-Off Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

245. A letter from the Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Legislative and Public Affairs, Agency for International Development, transmitting in accordance with Section 647(b) of Division F of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2004, Pub. L. 108-199, the Agency's report on competitive sourcing efforts for FY 2004; to the Committee on Government Reform.

246. A letter from the Director of Congressional Relations, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting the FY 2004 report pursuant to the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3512(c)(3); to the Committee on Government Reform.

247. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-570, "Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Fund Temporary Act of 2004,"

pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

248. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting in accordance with Section 647(b) of Division F of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2004, Pub. L. 108-199, the Department's report on competitive sourcing efforts for FY 2004; to the Committee on Government Reform.

249. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting in accordance with Section 647(b) of Division F of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2004, Pub. L. 108-199, the Department's report on competitive sourcing efforts for FY 2004; to the Committee on Government Reform.

250. A letter from the Chief Financial Officer, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting in accordance with Section 647(b) of Division F of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2004, Pub. L. 108-199, the Department's report on competitive sourcing efforts for FY 2004; to the Committee on Government Reform.

251. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General for Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting in accordance with Section 647(b) of Division F of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2004, Pub. L. 108-199, and the Office of Management and Budget Memorandum 05-01, the Department's report on competitive sourcing efforts for FY 2004; to the Committee on Government Reform.

252. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting in accordance with Section 647(b) of Division F of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2004, Pub. L. 108-199, the Department's report on competitive sourcing efforts for FY 2004; to the Committee on Government Reform.

253. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting in accordance with Section 647(b) of Division F of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2004, Pub. L. 108-199, and the Office of Management and Budget Memorandum 05-01, the Department's report on competitive sourcing efforts for FY 2004; to the Committee on Government Reform.

254. A letter from the United States Trade Representative, Executive Office of the President, transmitting the FY 2005 Performance Plan and FY 2003 Annual Performance Report, pursuant to the requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA); to the Committee on Government Reform.

255. A letter from the Director, Office of Management, Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting in accordance with Section 647(b) of Division F of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2004, Pub. L. 108-199, the Board's report on competitive sourcing efforts for FY 2004; to the Committee on Government Reform.

256. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting in accordance with instructions in OMB Memorandum M-05-01, the Commission's report on competitive sourcing competitions in FY 2004; to the Committee on Government Reform.

257. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the semi-annual report on the activities of the Office of Inspector General for the period ending September 30, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

258. A letter from the Administrator, General Services Administration, transmitting in accordance with the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76, the Administration's report on competitive sourcing efforts for FY 2004; to the Committee on Government Reform.

259. A letter from the Assistant Administrator, Office of Legislative Affairs, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting in accordance with Section 647(b) of Division F of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2004, Pub. L. 108-199, and the Office of Management and Budget Memorandum 05-01, the Administration's report on competitive sourcing efforts for FY 2004; to the Committee on Government Reform.

260. A letter from the Director, National Gallery of Art, transmitting in accordance with the Office of Management and Budget Memorandum 05-01, the Gallery's report on competitive sourcing efforts for FY 2003 and 2004; to the Committee on Government Reform.

261. A letter from the Chairman, National Mediation Board, transmitting the FY 2004 report pursuant to the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3512(c)(3); to the Committee on Government Reform.

262. A letter from the Chairman, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting in accordance with Section 647(b) of Division F of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2004, Pub. L. 108-199, the Commission's report on competitive sourcing efforts for FY 2004; to the Committee on Government Reform.

263. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting the annual report under the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act for FY 2004, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3512(c)(3); to the Committee on Government Reform.

264. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting in accordance with Section 647(b) of Division F of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2004, Pub. L. 108-199, and the Office of Management and Budget Memorandum 05-01, the Office's report on competitive sourcing efforts for FY 2004; to the Committee on Government Reform.

265. A letter from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the semiannual report on the activities of the Inspector General and the Management Response for the period of April 1, 2004 to September 30, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. (Insp. Gen. Act) section 5(b); to the Committee on Government Reform.

266. A letter from the Office of Special Counsel, transmitting the Office's FY 2004 Performance and Accountability Report; to the Committee on Government Reform.

267. A letter from the Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting the FY 2004 report pursuant to the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act of 1982, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3512(c)(3); to the Committee on Government Reform.

268. A letter from the Director, U.S. Trade and Development Agency, transmitting in accordance with Section 647(b) of Division F of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2004, Pub. L. 108-199, the Agency's report on competitive sourcing efforts for FY 2004; to the Committee on Government Reform.

269. A letter from the Chief Administrative Officer, transmitting the quarterly report of receipts and expenditures of appropriations and other funds for the period October 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004 as compiled by the Chief Administrative Officer, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 104a Public Law 88-454; (H. Doc. No. 109-7); to the Committee on House Administration and ordered to be printed.

270. A letter from the Office of the Independent Counsel, transmitting the 2004 annual report for the Office of Independent Counsel-Barrett, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 595(a)(2); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

271. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting a report

on the study to identify state laws that address discrimination against victims of domestic violence and sexual assault related to issuance or administration of insurance policies, as required by Section 1206 of the Violence Against Women Act of 2000 (VAWA 2000); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

272. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the revocation as "foreign terrorist organization" pursuant to Section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, pursuant to 8 U.S.C. 1189; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

273. A letter from the Secretary, Judicial Conference of the United States, transmitting the sixth Judicial Conference Report on the Continuing Need for Existing Bankruptcy Judgeships, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 152(b)(2); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

274. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands, Unalaska Island, AK [COTP Western Alaska 04-003] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received January 12, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

275. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Wantagh Parkway 3 Bridge over the Sloop Channel, Town of Hempstead, New York [CGD01-04-155] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received January 12, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

276. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Safety Zone; Indian River, Cocoa Village Mardi Gras, Cocoa, FL [COTP Jacksonville 04-134] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received January 12, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

277. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Sacramento River, Sacramento, CA [CGD 11-04-053] received January 12, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

278. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Boeuf River, Mason, LA [CGD08-04-032] (RIN: 1625-AA09) received January 12, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

279. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Drawbridge Operation Regulations; Vermillion River, Flanders, LA [CGD08-05-002] received January 12, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

280. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regulated Navigation Area; East Rockaway Inlet to Atlantic Beach Bridge, Nassau County, Long Island, New York [CGD01-04-152] (RIN: 1625-AA11) received January 3, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

281. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the De-

partment's final rule — Anchorage Grounds; Buzzards Bay, MA [CGD01-04-004] (RIN: 1625-AA01) received January 12, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

282. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Shipping and Transportation; Technical, Organizational and Conforming Amendments [USCG-2004-18884] (RIN: 1625-ZA03) received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

283. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Review and Approval of Classification Societies [USCG 2004-19483] received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

284. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, USCG, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Regulated Navigation Area; San Carlos Bay, FL [CGD07-04-146] (RIN: 1625-AA11) received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

285. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 747-400 and -400D Series Airplanes [Docket No. 2003-NM-217-AD; Amendment 39-13843; AD 2004-22-15] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

286. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; GROB-WERKE Model G120A Airplanes [Docket No. FAA-2004-18030; Directorate Identifier 2004-CE-13-AD; Amendment 39-13849; AD 2004-22-21] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

287. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Boeing Model 747-400 and -400F Series Airplanes [Docket No. FAA-2004-18728; Directorate Identifier 2003-NM-176-AD; Amendment 39-13838; AD 2004-22-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

288. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Modification of Class E Airspace; St. Francis, KS. [Docket No. FAA-2004-18821; Airspace Docket No. 04-ACE-47] received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

289. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Modification of Class D Airspace; Alamogordo, NM [Docket No. FAA-2004-19404; Airspace Docket No. 2004-ASW-13] received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

290. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No. 30428; Amdt. No. 3108] received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

291. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Picture Identification Requirements [Docket No. FAA-2002-11666; Amendment No. 61-111] (RIN: 2120-AH76) received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

292. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — IFR Altitudes; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No. 30427; Amdt. No. 451] received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

293. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting a report on hauling truck weight standards for specialized hauling vehicles, pursuant to Public Law 105-175, section 1213(f) (112 Stat. 202); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

294. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No. 30426; Amdt. No. 3107] received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

295. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No. 30425; Amdt. No. 3106] received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

296. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Saab Model SAAB SF340A and SAAB 340B Series Airplanes [Docket No. FAA-2004-19001; Directorate Identifier 2004-NM-98-AD; Amendment 39-13842; AD 2004-22-14] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

297. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Fokker Model F27 Mark 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, and 700 Series Airplanes [Docket No. FAA-2004-18787; Directorate Identifier 2003-NM-264-AD; Amendment 39-13837; AD 2004-22-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

298. A letter from the Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No. 30429; Amdt. 3109] received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

299. A letter from the Senior Attorney Advisor, RSPA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Applicability of the Hazardous Materials Regulations to Loading, Unloading, and Storage [Docket No. RSPA-98-4952(HM-223)] (RIN: 2137-AC68) received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

300. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, RSPA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Hazardous Materials; Prohibition on the Transportation of Primary Lithium Batteries and

Cells Aboard Passenger Aircraft [Docket No. RSPA-04-19886(HM-224E)] (RIN: 2137-AE05) received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

301. A letter from the Regulations Officer, FHWA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — National Standards for Traffic Control Devices; the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways; Specific Service and General Service Signing for 24-Hour Pharmacies [FHWA Docket No. FHWA-2004-17321] (RIN: 2125-AF02) received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

302. A letter from the Trial Attorney, FRA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — ReflectORIZATION of Rail Freight Rolling Stock [Docket No. FRA-1999-6689, Notice No. 4] (RIN: 2130-AB41) received January 3, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

303. A letter from the Senior Attorney — RSPA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Harmonization with the United Nations Recommendations, International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code, and International Civil Aviation Organization's Technical Instruments [Docket No. RSPA-04-17036 (HM-215G)] (RIN: 2137-AD92) received January 3, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

304. A letter from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting a report entitled "The Incidence and Severity of Sediment Contamination in Surface Waters of the United States, National Sediment Quality Survey," Second Edition, pursuant to Public Law 102-580, section 503(a)(2), (b)(2) (106 Stat. 4866); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

305. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Non-Vessel-Operating Common Carrier Service Arrangements [Docket No. 04-12] (RIN: 3072-AC30) received January 3, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

306. A letter from the Chief, Regulations & Procedures Division, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Flavored Malt Beverage and Related Regulatory Amendments (2002R-044P) [TTB T.D.-21; Re: TTB Notice No. 4] (RIN: 1513-AA12) received January 13, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

307. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a semi-annual report concerning emigration laws and policies of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan, as required by Sections 402 and 409 of the 1974 Trade Act, as amended; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

308. A letter from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Coordinated Issue All Industries: Notional Principal Contracts — received January 10, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

309. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Suspension of Interest and Certain Penalties Where Secretary Fails to Contact Taxpayer (Rev. Rul. 2005-4) received January 10, 2005,

pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

310. A letter from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Low-Income Housing Credit (Rev. Rul. 2005-1) received January 12, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

311. A letter from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Notice: Securities Exchanges under Section 367(a) [Notice 2005-6] received January 7, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

312. A letter from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Weighted Average Interest Rates Update [Notice 2005-9] received January 7, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

313. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's report entitled "Annual Report to Congress" for fiscal year 2003; jointly to the Committees on Education and the Workforce and the Judiciary.

314. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Office of Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Medicare and State Health Care Programs; Fraud and Abuse: OIG Civil Money Penalties Under the Medicare Prescription Drug Discount Card Program (RIN: 0991-AB30) received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

315. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Certification to the Congress for Venezuela, and a modification to the 2004 Certification to Congress relating to Trinidad and Tobago and Panama, pursuant to Public Law 101-162, section 609(b)(2) (103 Stat. 1038); jointly to the Committees on Resources and Appropriations.

316. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Medicare Program; Modification to Managed Care Rules [CMS-4041-IFC] (RIN: 0938-AK71) received December 30, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce.

317. A letter from the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, transmitting A report on the study on the feasibility and advisability of allowing Medicare fee-for-service beneficiaries to have "direct access" to outpatient physical therapy services and comprehensive rehabilitation facility services, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1395n note Public Law 108-173, section 647(b); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce.

318. A letter from the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, transmitting a report on the study of the payment for thoracic and cardiac surgeons, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1395w-4 note Public Law 108-173, section 644(b); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce.

319. A letter from the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, transmitting A report on the study of coverage of surgical first assisting services of certified registered nurse first assistants, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1395x note Public Law 108-173, section 643(b); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce.

320. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a two-part report to the Congress on various conditions in Bosnia and

Herzegovina. Part I responds to the requirements of section 7(b) of Pub. L. 105-174 (1998 Supplemental Appropriations and Rescissions Act) and outlines the latest developments in our continuing efforts to achieve a sustainable peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Part II responds to the supplementary reporting requirements contained in section 1203(a) of Pub. L. 105-261 (Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act for FY 1999), covering the period from July through December, 2004; jointly to the Committees on International Relations, Armed Services, and Appropriations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. SESSIONS: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 42. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 54) to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide reasonable standards for congressional gold medals, and for other purposes (Rept. 109-1). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. LANTOS (for himself, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. LEE, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. STARK, Ms. WOOLSEY, and Mr. HONDA):

H.R. 296. A bill to adjust the boundary of the Rancho Corral de Tierra Golden Gate National Recreation Area; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. RAHALL (for himself and Mr. WHITFIELD):

H.R. 297. A bill to restore the prohibition on the commercial sale and slaughter of wild free-roaming horses and burros; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. RAHALL (for himself and Mr. POMBO):

H.R. 298. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to provide public access to Farallon National Wildlife Refuge, Navassa National Wildlife Refuge, and Desecheo National Wildlife Refuge; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. RAHALL (for himself and Mr. COSTELLO):

H.R. 299. A bill to clarify that certain coal industry health benefits may not be modified or terminated; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. RAHALL (for himself and Mr. BOUCHER):

H.R. 300. A bill to amend the Black Lung Benefits Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. NORWOOD (for himself and Mr. KINGSTON):

H.R. 301. A bill to require a study and report regarding the construction and designation of a new interstate highway from Savannah, Georgia, to Knoxville, Tennessee; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. CUNNINGHAM (for himself, Mr. FILNER, Mr. ISSA, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. HONDA, Mr. WELLER, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, and Mr. WOLF):

H.R. 302. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to deem certain service in the

organized military forces of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines and the Philippine Scouts to have been active service for purposes of benefits under programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 303. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit certain additional retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation and to eliminate the phase-in period under current law with respect to such concurrent receipt; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CRENSHAW (for himself, Mr.

PUTNAM, Mr. STEARNS, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. CANTOR, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mrs. DRAKE, Mr. MICA, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. FORBES, Mr. MEEK of Florida, and Mr. SHAW):

H.R. 304. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require the naval forces of the Navy to include not less than 12 operational aircraft carriers; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina:

H.R. 305. A bill to repeal the sunset of the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 with respect to the expansion of the adoption credit and adoption assistance programs; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ISSA (for himself, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. FILNER, and Mrs. DAVIS of California):

H.R. 306. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to permit local public agencies to act as Medicaid enrollment brokers; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SIMMONS (for himself, Mr. SHAYS, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mrs. MCCARTHY, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. BOEHLERT, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. WEINER, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. LOWEY, and Mr. OWENS):

H.R. 307. A bill to establish the Long Island Sound Stewardship Initiative; to the Committee on Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MCINTYRE:

H.R. 308. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the 5-month waiting period for entitlement to disability benefits and to eliminate reconsideration as an intervening step between initial benefit entitlement decisions and subsequent hearings on the record on such decisions; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ABERCROMBIE (for himself, Mr. CASE, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, and Mr. GRIJALVA):

H.R. 309. A bill to express the policy of the United States regarding the United States relationship with Native Hawaiians and to

provide a process for the recognition by the United States of the Native Hawaiian governing entity; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. UPTON (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BARTON of Texas, and Mr. DINGELL):

H.R. 310. A bill to increase the penalties for violations by television and radio broadcasters of the prohibitions against transmission of obscene, indecent, and profane material, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BACA (for himself, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. EVANS, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. CARSON, and Ms. DELAURO):

H.R. 311. A bill to posthumously award a Congressional gold medal to Alice Paul in recognition of her role in the women's suffrage movement and in advancing equal rights for women; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. BACA (for himself, Mr. SHIMKUS, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. KIND, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. BASS, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. BOEHLERT, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. BOYD, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. CARSON, and Mr. SANDERS):

H.R. 312. A bill to extend the provision of title 39, United States Code, under which the United States Postal Service is authorized to issue a special postage stamp to benefit breast cancer research; to the Committee on Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BLUNT:

H.R. 313. A bill to provide grants to States to combat methamphetamine abuse; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Mr. AKIN, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. RENZI, and Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky):

H.R. 314. A bill to respond to the illegal production, distribution, and use of methamphetamine in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida (for herself and Mr. CRENSHAW):

H.R. 315. A bill to designate the United States courthouse at 300 North Hogan Street, Jacksonville, Florida, as the "John Milton Bryan Simpson United States Courthouse"; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. CARDIN:

H.R. 316. A bill to provide for the disposition of the Federal property located in Anne Arundel County, Maryland, a portion of which is currently used by the District of Columbia as the Oak Hill juvenile detention facility; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mrs. CHRISTENSEN:

H.R. 317. A bill to establish the District Court of the Virgin Islands as a court under article III of the United States Constitution; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. CHRISTENSEN:

H.R. 318. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating Castle Nugent Farms located on St. Croix, Virgin Islands, as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. CUNNINGHAM:

H.R. 319. A bill to require a temporary moratorium on leasing, exploration, and development on lands of the Outer Continental Shelf off the State of California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. CUNNINGHAM (for himself, Mr. CANTOR, and Mr. ISSA):

H.R. 320. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives to encourage manufacturers of computer, cell phone, and television equipment to operate an environmentally sound recycling program for use by consumers who want to discard the equipment; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. EMERSON:

H.R. 321. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable credit to certain senior citizens for premiums paid for coverage under Medicare Part B; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. EMERSON:

H.R. 322. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable credit to military retirees for premiums paid for coverage under Medicare part B; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ENGEL (for himself, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. WOLF, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. MCNULTY, Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. WATSON, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. LEWIS of California, and Mr. WEINER):

H.R. 323. A bill to redesignate the Ellis Island Library on the third floor of the Ellis Island Immigration Museum, located on Ellis Island in New York Harbor, as the "Bob Hope Memorial Library"; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. FEENEY (for himself, Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. MICA, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. KELLER, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. SHAW, Mr. MACK, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. BOYD, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. DAVIS of Florida, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. BILLIRAKIS, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, and Mr. WEXLER):

H.R. 324. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 321 Montgomery Road in Altamonte Springs, Florida, as the "Arthur Stacey Mastrapa Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. GRAVES:

H.R. 325. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to establish requirements for the operation of high occupancy vehicle facilities on highways; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. GRIJALVA:

H.R. 326. A bill to amend the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area Act of 2000 to adjust the boundary of the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area and to extend the au-

thority of the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance under that Act; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. GRIJALVA (for himself and Mr. HAYWORTH):

H.R. 327. A bill to allow binding arbitration clauses to be included in all contracts affecting land within the Gila River Indian Community Reservation; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. GUTKNECHT (for himself, Mr. EMANUEL, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. DELAURO, Mrs. NORTHUP, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. ISTOOK, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. KING of Iowa, and Mr. LANGEVIN):

H.R. 328. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the importation of prescription drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HAYWORTH:

H.R. 329. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to redesign the face of \$10 Federal reserve notes so as to include a likeness of President Ronald Wilson Reagan, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. HAYWORTH:

H.R. 330. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt certain sight-seeing flights from taxes on air transportation; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HAYWORTH (for himself and Mr. KILDEE):

H.R. 331. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to clarify that federally recognized Indian tribal governments are to be regulated under the same government employer rules and procedures that apply to Federal, State, and other local government employers with regard to the establishment and maintenance of employee benefit plans; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KING of New York:

H.R. 332. A bill to amend the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996 to require that, in order to determine that a democratically elected government in Cuba exists, the government extradite to the United States convicted felon William Morales and all other individuals who are living in Cuba in order to escape prosecution or confinement for criminal offenses committed in the United States; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. LYNCH:

H.R. 333. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require institutions of higher education to preserve the educational status and financial resources of military personnel called to active duty; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. LYNCH:

H.R. 334. A bill to designate Angola under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act in order to make nationals of Angola eligible for temporary protected status under such section; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LYNCH:

H.R. 335. A bill to amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 to

increase the availability and affordability of quality child care services by creating incentives for older individuals to join the child care workforce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LYNCH:

H.R. 336. A bill to amend the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to provide assistance to communities for the redevelopment of brownfield sites; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. MALONEY:

H.R. 337. A bill to amend title 13, United States Code, to provide that the term of office of the Director of the Census shall be 5 years, to provide that the Director of the Census report directly to the Secretary of Commerce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mrs. MALONEY (for herself and Mr. PETRI):

H.R. 338. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require the disclosure of certain information by persons conducting phone banks during campaigns for election for Federal office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. MCCRERY:

H.R. 339. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction for contributions to individual investment accounts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MORAN of Virginia:

H.R. 340. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to prohibit stationary sources located in ozone nonattainment areas from purchasing nitrogen oxide emission credits under the Environmental Protection Agency's nitrogen oxide trading program without the consent of the State in which such source is located, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. OSBORNE (for himself, Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. CASTLE, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina):

H.R. 341. A bill to amend the Community Services Block Grant Act to provide for quality improvements; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. OWENS:

H.R. 342. A bill to provide for adjustment of immigration status for certain aliens granted temporary protected status in the United States because of conditions in Montserrat; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PITTS:

H.R. 343. A bill to establish a pilot program of Central Asian scholarships for undergraduate and graduate level public policy internships in the United States; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. PITTS:

H.R. 344. A bill to establish a pilot program of Afghanistan scholarships for undergraduate and graduate level public policy internships in the United States; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. PLATTS:

H.R. 345. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to suspend the running of periods of limitation for credit or refund of overpayment of Federal income tax by veterans while their service-connected compensation determinations are pending with

the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PLATTS:

H.R. 346. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow volunteer firefighters a deduction for personal safety clothing; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PLATTS:

H.R. 347. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that the credit for adoption expenses shall be permanent and to repeal the 5-year limitation on carryforwards of unused credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PLATTS:

H.R. 348. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an enhanced deduction for qualified residence interest on acquisition indebtedness for heritage homes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PLATTS:

H.R. 349. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a full deduction for meals and lodging in connection with medical care; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PLATTS:

H.R. 350. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow certain individuals who have attained age 50 and who are unemployed to receive distributions from qualified retirement plans without incurring a 10 percent additional tax; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PLATTS:

H.R. 351. A bill to repeal the sunset on the increased assistance pursuant to the dependent care tax credit provisions of the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 and to make the credit refundable; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PLATTS:

H.R. 352. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the standard mileage rate for charitable purposes to the standard mileage rate established by the Secretary of the Treasury for business purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. RADANOVICH:

H.R. 353. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide supplemental funding and other services that are necessary to assist certain local school districts in the State of California in providing educational services for students attending schools located within Yosemite National Park, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to adjust the boundaries of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. RAMSTAD:

H.R. 354. A bill to amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide standards and procedures to guide both State and local law enforcement agencies and law enforcement officers during internal investigations, interrogation of law enforcement officers, and administrative disciplinary hearings, to ensure accountability of law enforcement officers, to guarantee the due process rights of law enforcement officers, and to require States to enact law enforcement discipline, accountability, and due process laws; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Mr. DREIER, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, and Mr. SHERMAN):

H.R. 355. A bill to provide for a resource study of the area known as the Rim of the Valley Corridor in the State of California to

evaluate alternatives for protecting resources of the corridor, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. HYDE, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. WICKER, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. HAYES, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. AKIN, Mr. PITTS, Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, Mr. BEAUPREZ, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. FORTUÑO, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mr. GOODE, Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin, Mr. JINDAL, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. WAMP, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. LAHOOD, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. RYUN of Kansas, Mr. BAKER, Mr. CARTER, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. FORBES, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. MCHENNY, Mr. HALL, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. CHOCOLA, Mr. RENZI, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. FEENEY, Mr. CONAWAY, Mrs. DRAKE, Mrs. NORTHUP, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. POMBO, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, and Mr. WELDON of Florida):

H.R. 356. A bill to ensure that women seeking an abortion are fully informed regarding the pain experienced by their unborn child; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SMITH of Texas (for himself, Mr. GOODLATTE, and Mr. JENKINS):

H.R. 357. A bill to provide for the protection of intellectual property rights, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SNYDER (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BERRY, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. ROSS, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. HAYWORTH, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. GINGREY, and Mr. HULSHOF):

H.R. 358. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the desegregation of the Little Rock Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. TERRY (for himself, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. NUNES, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. GONZALEZ, and Mr. LATOURETTE):

H.R. 359. A bill to require certain terms and conditions for the siting, construction, expansion, and operation of liquefied natural gas import terminals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. THOMAS:

H.R. 360. A bill to provide for the preservation of the historic confinement sites where Japanese Americans were detained during

World War II, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California:

H.R. 361. A bill to adjust the boundary of Redwood National Park in the State of California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. UDALL of New Mexico (for himself and Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico):

H.R. 362. A bill to designate the Ojito Wilderness Study Area as wilderness, to take certain land into trust for the Pueblo of Zia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr.

GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. OWENS, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mrs. MCCARTHY, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. KIND, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. WU, Mr. HOLT, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. CASE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. LEE, Mr. WEINER, Mr. CROWLEY, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. WATSON, Mr. BARROW, and Mr. WEXLER):

H.R. 363. A bill to require full funding of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Appropriations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina:

H.R. 364. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend bonus depreciation for 2 years; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina:

H.R. 365. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude working capital in applying the accumulated earnings tax; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CUNNINGHAM (for himself, Mr.

BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. BASS, Mr. BOEHLERT, Mr. BUYER, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. GOODE, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. ISSA, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. PITTS, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. SIMMONS, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina, Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi, Mr. WAMP, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. HUNTER, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. KNOLLENBERG, Mr. MOLLOHAN, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. WOLF, Mr. OTTER, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin, Mrs. MCCARTHY, Mr. GIBBONS, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. TERRY, and Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire):

H.J. Res. 10. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing the Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PLATTS:

H.J. Res. 11. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to limit the number of consecutive terms that a Member of Congress may serve; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BEAUPREZ:

H. Con. Res. 20. Concurrent resolution providing for a joint session of Congress to receive a message from the President; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BEAUPREZ:

H. Con. Res. 21. Concurrent resolution providing for an adjournment or recess of the two Houses; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. EMERSON:

H. Con. Res. 22. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the need to prevent the closure or consolidation of post offices; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas:

H. Con. Res. 23. Concurrent resolution urging increased Federal funding for juvenile (Type 1) diabetes research; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. KING of New York (for himself, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. RANGEL, and Ms. MCKINNEY):

H. Con. Res. 24. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the President should grant a posthumous pardon to John Arthur "Jack" Johnson for the 1913 racially motivated conviction of Johnson, which diminished his athletic, cultural, and historic significance, and tarnished his reputation; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MILLER of North Carolina (for himself, Mr. COBLE, Mr. WATT, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. COOPER, Mr. DICKS, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. MCINTYRE, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. BARROW, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. WYNN, and Mr. CLYBURN):

H. Con. Res. 25. Concurrent resolution recognizing the contributions of Jibreel Khazan (Ezell Blair, Jr.), David Richmond, Joseph McNeil, and Franklin McCain, the "Greensboro Four", to the civil rights movement; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. ROGERS of Alabama (for himself, Mr. TURNER, Mr. BONNER, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. EVERETT, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. OWENS, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. COX, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. SIMMONS, Mrs. MCCARTHY, Mr. McCOTTER, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. FORTUÑO, and Mr. SCHWARZ of Michigan):

H. Con. Res. 26. Concurrent resolution honoring the Tuskegee Airmen for their bravery in fighting for our freedom in World War II, and for their contribution in creating an integrated United States Air Force; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California (for herself, Mr. MICHAUD, and Mr. LYNCH):

H. Con. Res. 27. Concurrent resolution recognizing and honoring America's labor movement, supporting the designation of a National Labor History Month, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. LANTOS (for himself, Mr. HYDE, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. HOYER, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. ACKERMAN, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. CROWLEY, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. DENT, Mr. DICKS, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr.

FILNER, Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. ISRAEL, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KIRK, Mr. LEACH, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mrs. MALONEY, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. McCOTTER, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. OWENS, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PENCE, Mr. PITTS, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. ROTHMAN, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. SAXTON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. TERRY, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. VISCLOSKEY, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. WEINER, Mr. WELLER, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. WYNN, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. HONDA, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. SCHWARZ of Michigan, and Ms. WATSON):

H. Res. 39. A resolution commending countries and organizations for marking the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz and urging a strengthening of the fight against racism, intolerance, bigotry, prejudice, discrimination, and anti-Semitism; to the Committee on International Relations. considered and agreed to.

By Mr. FORTENBERRY (for himself, Ms. WATSON, Mr. TERRY, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mrs. BONO, Ms. LEE, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. OSBORNE, Mr. HAYWORTH, and Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia):

H. Res. 40. A resolution honoring the career and philanthropic contributions of Johnny Carson; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. MCINTYRE (for himself and Mr. DUNCAN):

H. Res. 41. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that a day should be established as "National Tartan Day" to recognize the outstanding achievements and contributions made by Scottish-Americans to the United States; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. SESSIONS:

H. Res. 42. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 54) to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide reasonable standards for congressional gold medals, and for other purposes.

By Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia (for herself, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. McCOTTER, Mr. BERMAN, and Mr. BLUMENAUER):

H. Res. 43. A resolution urging the European Council to continue to maintain its embargo on the sales of arms to the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H. Res. 44. A resolution supporting the establishment and full funding of a staff exchange program between the House of Representatives and the Parliament of Ukraine, the Verkhovna Rada, as soon as possible; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. NUNES (for himself and Mr. THOMAS):

H. Res. 45. A resolution recognizing the 100th anniversary of the founding of the California League of Food Processors and congratulating the members and officers of the California League of Food Processors for its achievements; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. OSBORNE (for himself, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. KELLER, and Mrs. DAVIS of California):

H. Res. 46. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Mentoring Month; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. PITTS:

H. Res. 47. A resolution urging a peaceful resolution of the conflict over Kashmir, and for other purposes; to the Committee on International Relations.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 11: Mr. MCINTYRE.

H.R. 13: Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. OWENS, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. OSBORNE, Mr. BERRY, Mr. TERRY, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. TURNER, and Mr. CASE.

H.R. 16: Mr. MILLER of Florida.

H.R. 17: Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. SIMMONS.

H.R. 20: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. GOODE.

H.R. 22: Mr. MURPHY, Mr. CLAY, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. McNULTY, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. RUSH, Mr. OWENS, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. CUMMINGS.

H.R. 23: Mr. TANNER, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. FORD, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. McCOTTER, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mrs. MCCARTHY, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Ms. LEE, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. FORTUÑO, and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.

H.R. 25: Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Mr. MCCAUL of Texas.

H.R. 27: Mr. NORWOOD and Mrs. MILLER of Michigan.

H.R. 29: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas and Mr. BAKER.

H.R. 30: Mr. FILNER.

H.R. 32: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. PENCE, Mr. SOUDER, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, and Mr. CALVERT.

H.R. 36: Ms. HERSETH and Mr. SHIMKUS.

H.R. 37: Mr. PITTS, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. GRAVES, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. FLAKE, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire.

H.R. 41: Mrs. MUSGRAVE, Mr. MILLER of Florida, and Mr. GOODLATTE.

H.R. 63: Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, and Mr. HINCHEY.

H.R. 64: Mr. HOSTETTLER, Mr. PAUL, Mr. CANNON, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. SODREL, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, Mr. GOODE, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. RENZI, Mr. WALDEN of Oregon, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. FORTUÑO, Mr. GILLMOR, Ms. FOX, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. WICKER, Mr. KUHLMAN of New York, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Mr. NUNES, Mr. WALSH, Mr. GILCHREST, Mr. PITTS, Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, and Mr. WESTMORELAND.

H.R. 68: Mr. PICKERING, Mr. GORDON, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. COX, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi, Mr. BOEHLERT, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. SPRATT, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. HYDE, Mr. BOYD, Mr. GOODE, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. HOYER, Mr. McCOTTER, Mr. GIBBONS, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. WOLF, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mrs. LOWEY,

Mr. McCAUL of Texas, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, and Mr. BLUNT.

H.R. 72: Mr. AKIN, Mr. RYUN of Kansas, Mr. GOODE, and Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey.

H.R. 98: Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. McCAUL of Texas, and Mr. BILIRAKIS.

H.R. 99: Mr. POMBO, Mr. COSTA, and Mr. CARDOZA.

H.R. 112: Mr. TOWNS, Ms. CARSON, Mr. McDERMOTT, and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 114: Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. OWENS, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. STRICKLAND, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. LANTOS, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. WEINER, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. FORD, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. GORDON, Mr. OBERSTAR, Ms. LEE, Mr. FILNER, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. WATSON, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Mr. McNULTY, and Mr. LANGEVIN.

H.R. 132: Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota, and Mr. HEFLEY.

H.R. 133: Mr. McHUGH, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Mr. FORTUÑO.

H.R. 135: Mr. BEAUPREZ and Mr. RENZI.

H.R. 136: Mr. WICKER and Mrs. CUBIN.

H.R. 139: Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. CARSON, Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD, Mr. ACKERMAN, and Mr. BERRY.

H.R. 179: Mr. DUNCAN.

H.R. 180: Mr. DUNCAN.

H.R. 181: Mr. MILLER of Florida and Mr. HYDE.

H.R. 187: Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Ms. HERSETH, and Ms. HOOLEY.

H.R. 219: Mr. CHABOT.

H.R. 239: Mr. McHENRY and Mr. AKIN.

H.R. 278: Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida, Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire, Mr. DUNCAN, Mrs. CUBIN, and Mr. NORWOOD.

H.R. 284: Ms. LEE, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. FARR.

H.R. 285: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.

H.R. 289: Mr. SHERMAN, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. LANTOS, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. MCKINNEY, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Mr. CALVERT, and Ms. WATSON.

H.R. 292: Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. OSBORNE, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. EVERETT, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. HERGER, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee, Ms. DeLAURO, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. EMANUEL, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. FORD, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. HALL, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of

Texas, Mr. KOLBE, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. SALAZAR, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. BARROW, Mr. PAUL, Mr. POMEROY, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. McCAUL of Texas, Mr. NUNES, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. STRICKLAND, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. WEINER, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WEXLER, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Mr. GOODE, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. FOSSELLA, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Ms. CARSON, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. OWNES, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Ms. WATSON, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. HONDA, Mrs. BONO, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. FORTUÑO, and Mr. BOOZMAN.

H.J. Res. 3: Mr. COLE of Oklahoma.

H.J. Res. 6: Mr. OTTER.

H. Con. Res. 16: Mr. ISSA, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. GALLEGLY, and Mr. CARDIN.

H. Con. Res. 19: Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. WOLF, and Mr. CALVERT.

H. Res. 14: Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Ms. HART, and Mr. TURNER.